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Many hurt in Assam

New Delhi, May 27 (AP) - At least four people were reported killed and more than 2,000 injured in clashes with police and military forces in the northeastern Indian state of Assam yesterday as hundreds of thousands of minority settlers demonstrated against a movement demanding their expulsion from the state.

News reports from the riot-torn state said army troops were placed on alert in several towns.

Three people were killed and scores wounded in fierce clashes between nearly 50,000 rioting Bengali minority settlers and police and military forces at Bijni in Goalpara district bordering Bangladesh.

About 400,000 minority settlers staged protest demonstrations in Kamrup, Goalpara and Nowgong districts.

Assamese and Bengali agitators were involved in violent clashes in several places, the Press Trust of India reported. In Barpeta town, where a person was fatally knifed, nearly 4,000 demonstrators went on a rampage, setting fire to scores of homes and a school building and assaulting Government officials.

Police and troops used tear gas and fired warning shots in the air to disperse rioting mobs in several districts. All-India radio said. In Plamati, Lengtisinga and Thelamara towns, however, soldiers fired on the demonstrators when they refused to scatter.

The broadcast said military forces are patrolling the troubled parts of the state after a round-the-clock curfew was clamped on seven towns.

Is astrology nonsense?

Bombay, May 25 (UNI) Astrology - For some people it may be a king of science while for some others it may even be a religion. But for noted American astonomer Bart J Bok "its just utter nonsense"

Condemning the craze for astrology, Prof. Bok told UNI that the assumption that the sun, moon and other planets exert some sort of critical forces on a baby's birth and its future ran counter to commonsense.

The astronomer, who had been observing stars and planets for over 50 years, said much evidence had been found to contradict the planets' or stars' influence on man.

Deploring the encouragement given to predictions, he said it was "Socially and morally inexcusable". He, however, agreed that it was difficult to stop astrology by mere scientific arguments, Prof. Bok lamented that several newspapers throughout the world published "this daily nonsense". The ready availability of such material could have an insiduous influence on one's personal judgement.

According to Prof. Bok's experience, "Astrology takes away one's right to take decisions".

Quoting a psychologist's analysis on the issue, he said astrology, by offering horoscopes as a substitute for honest thinking, had been guilty of playing upon human tendency to take easy rather than difficult paths.

Prof. Bok expressed his amazement that believers of astrology remembered only the forecasts which came true and ignored occasions when they did not "on this the astrologers may escape by saying that the stars' incline' but not compel".

Tracing the origin of astrology to between 100 to 200 A.D., he said "It was natural for earlier generations to consider stars and planets as awesome evidence of supernatural powers which could have a magic affect on the lives of human beings."

However, the foundation of astrology began to crumble when the effect of celestial objects on men was disproved with the modern concept of space science and astronomy, Prof. Bok said.

Sharing Prof. Bok's views, astronomer M.S. Vardya of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research here told UNI that it was a challenging task for intelligent men to wean people away from this "pseudo-science".

He regretted that many newspapers published the forecasts just to increase circulation.

A comparison of the astrological columns of different papers proved that the predictions never did tally.

EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA UP FIVE FOLD

NEW DELHI (IBS) — Australian intake of Indian engineering goods has increased five-fold in the last decade. Exports were valued at Rs. 16.5 million in 1970-71, and at Rs. 100 million in 1978-79.

How much, however, is due to increase in prices is not made clear.

Emergency again?

New Delhi (IBS) - Speculation is on whether the country is once again in for a major confrontation between Parliament and the Supreme Court of India.

The Supreme Court by a major judgement made it plain that, in this country, it is the Constitution that is supreme and not any of the three organs created by it, the executive, the judiciary or Parliament, in particular the last named.

This is the import of the Court's declaration of Sections 4 and 55 of the notorious 42nd Amendment as ultra vires the Constitution.

Section 4 established the primacy of Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights. Section 55 not only gave limitless power of amendment to Parliament but put it beyond the reach of the judiciary. It asserted that "there shall be no limitation whatever on the constituent power of Parliament to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions of this Constitution under this article" and that no Constitutional amendment made before or after the adoption of the 42nd amendment "shall be called in question in any court of law on any ground."

By declaring the two sections void the Court has reasserted its right to be the final interpreter of the Constitution.

The last word on the subject, so far as the judiciary is concerned, has been the Fundamental Rights case in which the court has ruled that Parliament can amend any part of the Constitution including Fundamental Rights, but cannot destroy its basic structure. What the basic structure is has not been clearly spelt out in that case, although some judges have given illustrations.

An attempt by the Janata Government to define it in the 44th Amendment failed because of lack of support from the Congress(I) in the Rajya Sabha. But there was no difference of opinion between Janata and the previous Indira Government over the absolute amending powers of Parliament, which explains why no attempt was made in the 44th Amendment to change this aspect of the 42nd Amendment.

The Court has now swung the pendulum back to the Fundamental Rights case and tested the 42nd Amendment in the light of the basic structure theory. Thus, judged, the declaration of the primacy of Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights has been held to be beyond Parliament's amending power because it has damaged the basic or essential features of the Constitution.

And so, is the case with arrogation of limitless power by Parliament to amend the Constitution. The Court has yet to give its reasons for holding so, but, interestingly, of the five judges constituting the Bench four have signed the order and the fifth has withheld it, and thus not disclosed his mind, until he is able to give a reasoned judgement.

Danger Ahead

Where do we go from here? There will, no doubt, be fireworks when Parliament meets next. The Indira Government's massive majority in the Lok Sabha and the probability of a viable majority in the Rajya Sabha may encourage parliamentarians and the Government to take extreme positions.

The wiser course for the Government and Parliament would be to accept the Supreme Court judgement as final.

But if the voice of reason does not prevail an attempt to convene a Constituent Assembly, by possibly converting the present Parliament into that shape, cannot be ruled out.

An easier temptation may be to pack the Court. It is in this light that the seven vacancies in the Supreme Court in the near future acquire unusual importance.

On how these will be filled may ultimately depend on the fate of the Constitution and of democracy, as visualized by the Founding Fathers.

MGR vs. Karunanidhi

New Delhi (UNI) — The Supreme Court permitted AIADMK leader and former Tamil Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran to withdraw his special leave petition challenging a Madras High Court order.

A Division bench of the High Court had on May 2 refused to grant Mr. Ramachandran interim injunction restraining DMK President and former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi from making defamatory allegations against him in his speeches or writings. The High court held that Mr. Ramachandran had failed to establish a prime facie case against Mr. Karunanidhi warranting an interim injunction.

According to the petition, Mr. Karunanidhi had levelled allegations of corruption against Mr. Ramachandran in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. He later presented to President Sanjiva Reddy a memorandum containing the allegations and repeating the charges in speeches and writings.

Mr. Ramachandran filed a defamation suit for damages and permanent injunction against Mr. Karunanidhi and others.

On the refusal of the High Court to grant the injunction the petitioner approached the Supreme Court.

Justice E.S. Venkataramaiah heard arguments on the special leave petition for more than an hour and a half, at the end of which K.K. Venugopal, counsel for Mr. Ramachandran, sought permission to withdraw the petition.

Permitting him to do so, Justice Venkataramaiah said Mr. Ramachandran would be at liberty to approach the High Court for any relief on the basis of the High Court's judgment.

On a plea of counsel for Mr. Karunanidhi, the judge observed that Mr. Karunanidhi too would be free to raise objections at the High Court.

Mr. Karunanidhi's counsel, P. R. Mridall, contended that freedom of speech being a fundamental right, advance censorship was not permitted even in cases of slander and libel.

In cases where respondents undertook to estabish the truth of allegations, courts did not grant interim injunctions.

Mr. Venugopal maintained that Mr. Karunanidhi had no material to prove the allegations of corruption and had not produced any document in support of the allegations after having promised to do so.

India's poor

New Delhi (IBS) - Seven States in the country account for about three-fourths of the poor people, according to the findings of economist Raj Krishna - UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, but not in that order.

These States also account for two-thirds of the total pool of the unemployed.

In this respect, he called for a redistribution of income and wealth in favour of the poorer sections and, therefore, re-orientation in planning. This, he stressed, calls for political will right from the roots.

Strangely enough, in some States, including Maharashtra and West Bengal, the average income is relatively high, but so is the poverty ratio - mainly because modern industrial complexes have raised average incomes.

Powers of Parliament

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi: The supreme court of India has struck down section 55 of the constitution (42nd Amendment Act 1976 which gave unlimited powers to parliament to amend the Constitution.

The court decreed that the amending power of parliament under section 55 of the Act was void since it removed all limitations on the power of parliament to amend the Constitution and confered power upon it to amend the Constitution in such a manner as to destroy its basic or essential features of its basic structure.

The court also struck down Section 4 of the Constitution 42nd Amendment Act amending Article 31C giving primacy to Directive Principles of state policy over fundamental rights.

The order was handed down by four of the five judges from the Constitution Bench headed by the Chief Justice, Y.V.Chandrachud, Justice P.N.Bhagwati, however, gave a dissenting note.

The sub-section of Section 55 (included in the 42nd Amendment enacted during the Emergency in 1976(struck down by the Court reads: No amendment of this Constitution (including the provision of part three (fundamental rights(made or purporting to have been made under the article (whether before or after the commencement of Section 55 of the Constitution (42nd Amendment Act 1976 (shall be called in question in any court on any ground).

Sub-section 5 provides that for removal of doubts it is hereby declared that there shall be no limitation whatsoever on the constituent power of Parliament to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions of this Constitution under this Article".

Article 31C provided that Notwithstanding anything contained in Article 13, no law giving effect to the policy of the state towards securing all or any of the principles laid down in part four (directive Principles) shall be deemed to be void on the ground that it is inconsistent with or takes away or abridges any of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14, Article 19 or Article 31 and no law containing a declaration that it is for giving effect to such policy shall be called in question in any court or on the ground that it does not give effect to such policy."

After the 42nd Amendment came into force in January1977, the Emergency regime of Mrs.Gandhi had brought in a number of vital changes in the Constitution. Several of these amendments were later replaced by the Janata Government which came into power in 1978.

The sections that are struck down by the Supreme Court now could not be replaced by the Janata Government since they were vetoed by the Rajya Sabha where the Opposition was in majority.

GOVT. MOVE

The government might move the Supreme Court for a review by a full Constitutional Bench since the present orders striking down these provisions have far reaching effect.

It restrains the government from amending the Constitution as it likes to remove what it considers as hurdles in the implementation of its policies and programmes.

Mrs.Gandhi's government also do not have the requisite two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha at present and the position is likely to be so until 1982 unless altered through defections.

DEATH PENALTY

In yet another momentous decision the Supreme Court had upheld the validity of death penalty but directed the judges not to resort to it" save in the rarest of rare cases" when there are no other options available.

The Chief Justice Y.V.Chandrachud and three other judges who heard arguments on the constitutional validity of the provision for capital punishment in the 'Indian Penal Code observed in their order that the judges should have a "real and abiding concern for the dignity of human life" while taking away a life through the instrument of law.

Several convicts were awaiting the Supreme Court's ruling on the death sentence awarded to them. There has also been a spate of public discussion on the provision for capital punishment in the recent past.

LAND CEILING LAWS

In another judgement the Supreme Court dismissed all writ petitions challenging the validity of the Urban Ceiling Act enacted by various state governments.

In its unanimous judgement the Supreme Court held that all amendments to the Constitution which were made before April 24, 1973 and by which the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution was amended from time to time by inclusion of various Acts and regulations therein were valid and constitutional.

Probe of jail ordered

NEW DELHI May 22 (Reuter) — The Indian Supreme Court has ordered an inquiry into conditions inside the grim walls of Delhi's Tihar jail, which has provided a reluctant home for many famous prisoners.

The inquiry will also deal with allegations of corruption against officials at the jail, where Prime Minister Indira Gandhi spent a week when she was in opposition in 1978.

Former premier Charan Singh spent 19 months behind Tihar's high walls along with other opposition leaders during Gandhi's 1975-77 emergency rule.

PROMINENT PRISONERS

But the list of prominent prisioners has had little impact on the appalling conditions of the overcrowded prison.

The court acted after hearing a petition by a convict serving a life sentence, claiming that prisoners routinely bribed officials for petty favors and that crime, including prostitution, was rampant at Tihar.

The investigation will also cover charges of nepotism, drug trafficking and smuggling.

"The stench of corruption hangs over Tihar central jail in New Delhi like a thick black cloud that never goes away," said Vincent D'Souza, a former senior government official who was recently released after serving a six-year term in Tihar.

D'Souza, imprisoned under the Official Secrets Act, wrote in a New Delhi magazine that smuggling of drugs and liquor as well as gambling was common in the jail. Favored prisoners were able to seek prostitutes from the women's ward.

Although most leading politicians in the country have had a taste of Tihar, they have displayed little inclination to improve it. The jail is run in accordance with a manual first published more than 100 years ago.

Most convicts are expected to do hard labor, but D'Souza said the nutritive value of the two meals given to them is barely 400 calories a day — "three big chappatis (bread) and a watery gruel containing very small bits of potatoes or a seasonal vegetable and a dal (lentils) witout seasoning or spice."

BRUTAL BEATING

Three convicts brutally beat a fellow prisoner recently with an iron bar and attacked a jail warden who tried to stop them. The victim, described as a well-behaved, long-term convict, was admitted to hospital.

Open drains running through the prison are often used as toilets, most tiny cells have up to six people and the marshy land around the jail is a breeding ground for mosquitoes which plague the convicts at night. Up to 2,500 people are huddled together in the jail, meant only for 1,200 prisoners.

Rajmata (the dowager) Gayatri Devi of Jaipur spent several months in 1976 in the women's ward sharing the open toilet with prostitutes and petty thieves.

Also held at Tihar during the emergency was the Rajmata Vijaye Raje Scindia of Gwalior, widow of the fabulously rich former ruler of Gwalior.

They gave a graphic account of life in jail when in 1977 the Tihar-born Janata party came to power.

Gandhi was jailed for a week in 1978 on a charge of contempt of Parliament.

HANGINGS BOTCHED

D'Souza said during his stay at Tihar six hangings were carried out. The hangman *usually tested* the noose the night before, but sometimes it was not tied properly and the condemned man was left dangling and panting.

"In order to cut short his agony the hangman has been known to leap and cling to the body to provide the extra weight on the noose that is needed," wrote D'Souza.

The Supreme Court, ordering an inquiry at Tihar, referred to "a crisis in Indian prisons, where barbarities harden convicts instead of healing them."

Trade balance worsens

New Delhi (UNI) — The country's balance of payments position is expected to deteriorate further in 1980-81 posing grave challenge to an already problem-ridden economy.

The grim warning is contained in the latest review of the economy made by the Finance Ministry.

Most important of the factors that is eroding the balance of payments is the very sharp increase in the price of imported crude. On January 1, crude prices were almost double the level a year earlier. But the full impact of the oil price increase is expected only in 1980-81. The prices of other imports are also expected to remain at a very high level in the coming year.

Trade data, available up to February show that exports during April 1979 to February 1980 amounted to Rs 5,474 crores. While imports were valued at Rs 7,374 crores, showing a trade deficit of Rs 1,899 crores. The deficit for the corresponding period in 1978-79 stood at Rs 1,063 crores. In sharp contrast to the trend of rapidly rising foreign exchange reserves observed since 1974-75 the foreign exchange reserves declined slightly by Rs 55 crores in 1979-80.

The review says it is necessary to continue import of substantial quantites of several items during 1980-81 to ensure an increased output in industry and agriculture and hold down the pressure on prices. To this end, the Government plans to import adequate quantities of steel, cement, fertilisers and aluminium to meet the needs of expanding domestic production in the economy. It is also intended to import adequate quantities of edible oils to help keep prices in check.

The review observes that 1979-80 was an extremely difficult year for the Indian economy with a sharp deterioration in almost every sector. Severe drought conditions prevailing over large parts of the country led to a substantial decline in agricultural production. Serious problems arose in the infrastructure sectors especially power, coal and transport. These, in turn, had an adverse effect upon production in a number of industries. Industrial production, therefore, is likely to show zero growth. Overall gross domestic product will probably show a decline of 1 to 2 per cent during 1979-80.

The review says these severe supply constraints arose in an environment in which both fiscal and monetary policies had been highly expansionary. This has been specially true of fiscal policy which continued to be expansionary both in 1978-79 and in 1979-80. The inevitable result has been a sharp increase in prices. The wholesale price index rose by about 20 per cent between March 31, 1979 to March 29, 1980.

Against the background of these problems, the task of economic management in the coming year will be extremely difficult, the review warns. The objective of economic policy should be to set the stage for a resumption of economic growth with stability.

The review lists the policy options facing the government bringing the rate of inflation under control will have to receive first priority. At the same time, efforts must be made to tackle constraints which limit domestic production capacity. A sustained increase in output provides the only "real guarantee" against excessive price increases, the review affirms.

Drought hits millions

Calcutta, May 27 (UNI) — A total of 220 million people have been hit by drought in 11 Indian States Agrculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh has said.

Rajasthan, U.P., Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal were the worst- affected States, he said.

The Minister, now visiting several States to assess their relief requirements, told newsmen that though there was no dearth of grain in the country with a buffer stock of 15 million tonnes, difficulties were being experienced in the movement of supplies to different areas, drinking water had also to be transported by rail.

Airdropping of grain started in the Northeastern Union Territory of Mizoram and Himachal Pradesh May 5 under instructions of the Prime Minister.

In West Bengal 1.1 million peole were hit by drought in 13 out of the State's 15 districts. Drinking water was scarce in 9,000 of the State's 38,000 villages.

MP'S HOUSE BURGLED

New Delhi (UNI) — Burglers broke into the Talkstoe Road residence of Jyotirmoy Bosu, CPI (Marxist) Member of Parliament recently.

According to a complaint lodged with police by Inderjit Bosu, son of Mr. Bosu, the house was burgled in the afternoon while he and his wife went out. The thieves escaped with a typewriter, silver and brass plates and a clock.

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Qualities spouses

Baroda, May 25 (UNI) — Th three most important personali factors sought in spouses b students of the Maharaja Saya rao University were honest understanding and sincerity.

A recent random sample surve conducted by the Department Child Development of the Facul of Home Science revealed that th other important factors that par ners looked for were educatio and intelligence because the "facilitated mental compatibili and aided in getting better jobs." Age and maturity were also give much weightage.

However, surprisingly, bot sexes emphasised the need fo the male partner to be superior all the above criteria, though shift in this trend towards equa ity is slowly making itself felt o the campus.

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Devdasis

Panaji (UNI) — The tradition devdasi system in Goa in whic keeping a mistress besides a wi was not considered a taboo, ha virtually declined since th former Portugese colony merge with India.

The prestige attached keeping a mistress is also on th decline says the Goa gazett published recently by the Go administration.

This is because of the spread education among the devadasi "The prostitution that is evidence at present is no mo based on caste' the gazette add

Since liberation, and eve before it the girls had switche over to the normal practice getting married and thus th traditional devdasi system slow withered away, the gazette say

Earlier when villages gre around a temple a large numbe of the population was employed the service of the deity. Among them were the 'purjari' (priest the 'vajantri' (musicians) an servants who did menial service They were given plots of land the village as remuneration f

Support Muslim

New Delhi, May 29 (UNI) The Supreme Court allowed a appeal by which Muslim wome can claim maintenance from the husbands if they are estranged divorced.

Fuzlunbi, married to Kader A in 1966 claimed maintenance f herself and her minor son grounds of neglect. A mag trate in the Sessions Cour awarded her a monthly allowan of Rs 250 and an allowance of 150 for her son. Her husba later divorced her and paid her 500 as "mehr" and Rs 750 "iddat". The court then cancel the grant of maintenance becau of the divorce coupled with payment of "mehr" and "idda under Muslim Personal Law.

The Andhra Pradesh H Court upheld this ruling desp an earlier ruling by the Supre Court which maintained t neither Personal Law nor otl salvationary pleas would b against the policy of public law set down in the Indian Pe Code. The Supreme Court ov ruled both courts when the ca came up.

Delivering the court's judgeme Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer pass

Qualities in spouses

Baroda, May 25 (UNI) - The three most important personality factors sought in spouses by students of the Maharaja Sayajirao University were honesty, understanding and sincerity.

A recent random sample survey conducted by the Department of Child Development of the Faculty of Home Science revealed that the other important factors that partners looked for were education and intelligence because they "facilitated mental compatibility and aided in getting better jobs". Age and maturity were also given much weighage.

However, surprisingly, both sexes emphasised the need for the mate partner to be superior in all the above criteria, though a shift in this trend towards equality is slowly making itself felt on the campus.

A spokesman for the department told UNI here that the survey was conducted to find out the opinions of university students regarding selection of mates and to study sex differences, if any, in the opinions. The project was also meant to suggest modifications in the course on marriage offered by the faculty of home science.

The students covered by the survey were in the age group 18-21.

A majority - about two-thirds of the boys and over one-third of the girls - preferred to select their own mate. Over half the girls opted for personal selection combined with parental consent because they felt that their parents' wider experience enabled a better choice.

Almost all the respondents expressed themselves against dowry for varying reasons. The economic burden on the girl's parents was cited as the major factor.

Almost all the respondents expressed the need to interact with the person before selection in order to gain a better understanding of the person's behaviour and to make a better choice.

But a majority of the girls were against pre-martial sex for reasons such as "personal values" and "against social norms".

Devdasis in Goa

Panaji (UNI) — The traditional devdasi system in Goa in which keeping a mistress besides a wife was not considered a taboo, has virtually declined since the former Portugese colony merged with India.

The prestige attached to keeping a mistress is also on the decline says, the Goa gazette published recently by the Goa administration.

This is because of the spread of education among the devadasis. "The prostitution that is in evidence at present is no more based on caste," the gazette adds.

Since liberation, and even before it the girls had switched over to the normal practice of getting married and thus the traditional devdasi system slowly withered away, the gazette says.

Earlier when villages grew around a temple a large number of the population was employed in the service of the deity. Among them were the 'purjari' (priest), the 'vajantri' (musicians) and servants who did menial services. They were given plots of land in the village as remuneration for the services.

Among these temple-servants were the devdasis, who danced and sang to please the god. They were of two types — Bhavin and Kalavant. The Kalavant enjoyed a higher status than the Bhavins, as both male and female members of this community were required to master the skill of dancing and singing.

The Bhavins, on the other hand, used to sweep the floor and clean lamps. Intermarriage between the two communities was not allowed.

After attainment of puberty, the Kalavant girls were required to undergo a ritual called 'shesh' after which the girl was free to be sold to some rich man who kept her as his mistress. Usually, the girls remained faithful to their masters and remained as widows if their husband died.

But, in case the man left them after some time, they were allowed to choose another man.

The Bhavin girls, on the other hand, were free to practice prostitution and no one ever kept them as their mistress.

Support for Muslim women

New Delhi, May 29 (UNI) — The Suprme Court allowed an appeal by which Muslim women can claim maintenance from their husbands if they are estranged or divorced.

Fuzlunbi, married to Kader Ali in 1966 claimed maintenance for herself and her minor son on grounds of neglect. A magistrate in the Sessions Courts awarded her a monthly allowance of Rs 250 and an allowance of Rs. 150 for her son. Her husband later divorced her and paid her Rs 500 as "mehr" and Rs 750 as "iddat". The court then cancelled the grant of maintenance because of the divorce coupled with the payment of "mehr" and "iddat" under Muslim Personal Law.

The Andhra Pradesh High Court upheld this ruling despite an earlier ruling by the Supreme Court which maintained that neither Personal Law nor other salvationary pleas would hold against the policy of public law as set down in the Indian Penal Code. The Supreme Court overruled both courts when the case came up.

Delivering the court's judgement Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer passed strictures on the two lower courts and observed that 'by disingenous process of distinguishing the Session Judge and the High Court judge, who had before them the pronouncement of the Supreme Court, chopped legal logic to circumvent it".

Visa guidelines

NEW DELHI May 22 (UNI) — The Government is formulating fresh guidelines for speedy issuance of visas to the Pakistan nationals desirous of visiting India.

India opened a consulate general office in Karachi in 1979 to cope with the rush of Pak Nationals aplying for visa to visit India. During the year 147,334 of the 249,397 applicants were issued the visas.

The government says despite rush of intending visitors there has been no delay in issuing visas. Some delay has occurred in cases of the Pak nationals wanting to visit cantonment, restricted or military areas and of members of Pakistan defence or paramilitary forces coming to meet their relations in India.

Canadian tour scuttled

New Delhi: Kerala's electricity minister K.Balakrishna Pillay had planned his Canadian tour from May 2 to 15 to negotiate the procurement of three more generators for the Idikki Hydro Electric Project. His programme was cleared by the State Cabinet.

When Mr.Pillay reached here for completing the formalities for his onward journey, he learned much to his discomfiture that the Central government was not in favour of his visit. He was asked to "defer" his Canadian visit.

The Ministry of Heavy Industry did not clear the procurement of Canadian generators since it felt that the requirement could be met by the BHEL although it may take a longer period for delivery. Thus Mr. Pillay was told that his visit at this juncture would be premature since a final decision on the matter was still to be taken by the Centre.

The Kerala Chief Minister Mr.Nayanar has written a letter to the Prime Minister pleading for Mr. Pillay's visit to Canada.

Mr.Pillay felt surprised as to why the External Affairs Ministry should not clear his tour, particularly when the entire expenses of his visit abroad was being met by the Canadian government.

Iranaians clash

NEW DELHI (IBS) — Two factions of Iranian students came to blows outside a bazar in Connaught Place, and a boy and two girls were taken to hospital with minor injuries.

Police claimed that it was prompt intervention on their part which prevented serious damage to the rioteers — Iranian students have been demonstrating periodically against US imperialism outside the American Centre here since the issue of the Shah being given shelter in USA in 1979 had first flared up — while onlookers state that police only came on to the scene after the clashing factions had been slugging it out for 15 minutes.

Gurbharan Singh, Deputy Commissioner, New Delhi stated that about 15 pro and anti-Khomeni students were shopping in Connaught Place when they encountered 30 pro-Islamic Khomeni students. Words were exchanged and a scuffle followed, leading upto a hit-and-run cucounter outside the shopping complexes latest addition — Palika Bazar.

In the morning police prevented violence from breaking out near Golf Links, where 100 pro-Khomeni students had gathered to brickbat the Iranian Embassy.

Collectives formed

Trivandrum, (UNI) — The Kerala cabinet has decided to assign to the 246 families in the Illithode Collective Farm all the lands belonging to the farm at the rate of one hectare of land to a family.

Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar told newsmen here that 38 hectares of coconut plantation in the farm would also form part of the land being assinged to the families.

The experiment of a collective farm in Illithode had failed and it was decided to assign the lands to the farmers as they would be interested in cultivating them properly only if it belonged to them, Mr. Nayanar said.

Mr. Nayanar said that the farmes would be free to form a cooperative society on their own.

Scientists protest

NEW DELHI (UNI) — Thirty nine scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute here have decided to boycott reviews of their five-yearly assessment for promotions, inerviews for which start this week.

The scientists, belonging to different grades in seniority allege irregularities by the IARI authorities and the agricultural service recruitment board (ASRB).

In separate letters to the chairman of the ASRB, the scientists have alleged that no proper criteria of assessment for promotion had been prescribed to justify uniformity and equality in the promotions and that their past experience had been that personal discussions had not been confined to work done as stipulated by the agriculture research service (ARS) rules.

It was also highly discoureging and the reasons for not granting promotions by earlier assessments had not been communicated to them so far by the previous boards.

The experts on the board mostly came from the universities and insisted on asking mainly the theoretical questions while the ASRB rules specify that questions ate to be put on the basis of the candidate's work for the five years for which he was being assessed and will be restricted to his area of specialisation, the STSA complained.

Curds curtail heart attacks

New Delhi, May 25 (UNI) - Curds may help lower cholesterol - a major factor in heart attacks, early results from studies on rabbits indicate.

Veterinary researchers who fed 20 rabbits cholesterol daily found that those among them whose diet was supplemented with curds, had lesser cholesterol than control subjects.

Scientists at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, gave rabbits 500 mg of cholesterol a day for a month and then 100 mg daily for the next two months.

They report: clinically, all the animals were healthy up to the 30th day, after which the control subjects "showed signs of weakness, loss of body weight and anaemia."

In animals on curd-supplemented diet, "the mean total cholesterol value was significantly less on the 30th, 60th and 90th day as compared to animals" in the control group.

The curd-eating rabbits also registered "an increase in the body weight up to the 70th day, but subsequently it decreased progressively."

The IVRI report says that though curd reduces the level of cholesterol to some extent, "it was unable to neutralise the entire amount consumed.

The scientists say they consider the results achieved thus far "quite encouraging", but would have to conduct more detailed experiments before reaching a conclusion.

Man held in Nirankari case

New Delhi, May 27 (UNI) — The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested a person trying to cross into Pakistan near the Ganganagar border in north Rajasthan in connection with Nirankari chief Baba Gurbachan Singh's assassination.

Informed sources said the person taken into custody was a Sikh and a carpenter by profession.

Preliminary questioning of the person revealed that he was present in Delhi on the night of April 24 when the Baba and his bodyguard were gunned down in the Nirankari headquarters in North Delhi.

The investigators were trying to ascertain if the arrested person had a hand in the assassination. The person whose identity was not immediately known has been brought here for interrogation.

This is the first arrest made by the CBI in the case.

Meanwhile, the prime suspect Ranjit Singh continued to elude the investigators who have fanned out in different parts of the country.

CBI teams have interrogated a number of persons including the close associates and relatives of Ranjit Singh, a 25 year old carpenter who had worked in the Nirankari Mandal for nearly two months.

The sources could not immediately say if the person arrested was the same who had escaped on the night of the crime under cover of darkness.

Eye witnesses had seen two persons escape after the crimes. Both were described as Sikhs.

Smugglers and tax

NEW DELHI, May 29 (UNI) — A smugglers plea for treating a sum of money confiscated by the authorities from him, as deductible for income tax assessment purposes was upheld by the Supreme Court.

Justice P.N. Bhagwati, in his judgement, observed that "the confiscation is a loss incurred in pursuing a business in the same way as if the currency notes were stolen or dropped on the way while carying on a business.

"It is a loss which springs directly form carrying on the business and is incidental to it."

The case related to Piara Singh, who was arrested in September last by Indian police while crossing the India Pakistan border. Rs. 65,000 in currency notes was recovered and during interrogation by police he said that he was carrying the money to buy gold for smuggling.

GHAFFAR KHAN WELL

New Delhi, May 29 (UNI) — Pakhtoon leder Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who is undergoing treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, is "maintaining normal health."

Dr. P. Chandra, who heads the panel of doctors treating Badshah Khan, told UNI that the 92-years old Pakhtoon leader goes for a walk every evening and is feeling "very well."

Badshah Khan met President Sanjiva Reddy over lunch recently.

THE CANADIAN INDIA TIMES

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RACISM IN TORONTO

Toronto news media have recently reported a number of racial incidents involving Indo-Canadians in the Toronto area. The Toronto police are alleged to be ineffective in providing help to victims of racial attacks. The Ontario Human Rights Commission is said to be not very swift in deciding on issues related to racial discrimination forgetting the dictum that justice delayed is justice denied. The media have been charged with fanning the flames of racial tension through sensationalism in their news reports.

In spite of continued racial tension in Toronto for quite some time neither the Ontario Government nor the Indo-Canadian community has taken sufficient initiatives to improve the situation. The Davis government, which rules the province with the help of Gallup Polls (by finding out what the majority wants and giving them what they want) is not expected to do much more especially if their secret polls tell them that Indo-Canadians are not a much appreciated ethnic group in Toronto or elsewhere.

This makes it quite essential that the Indo-Canadian community has to take the necessary initiative. However, what do we find among the Indo-Canadians in Toronto? They number about 100,000 and have over 60 or so organised associations which provide neither unity nor leadership. The elite among them have either buried themselves with books in their ivory towers or have buried their heads in ostrich-like manner. The rich are too busy making more money. Consequently the least informed and most fanatic among the rank and file emerge as "leaders" and their pronouncements to the media create further hatred towards Indo-Canadians in Toronto and elsewhere.

In short the crisis facing the community is lack of leadership from within. Admittedly, it is not easy for our community, true to our nature and nurture, to have one leader. However, it should not be too difficult for the majority of the 60 or so organisations and the 100,000 people to agree on some course of action on the basis of a minimum program to counter racism. In a situation like this, one expects that an organisation such as the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India (NACOI) could, at least, act as a catalytic agent. However, NACOI does not show signs of taking such initiatives.

If no enlightened and effective leadership among the Indo-Canadians emerges in the near future, the Toronto situation will become much worse before it gets better, if ever at all.

Rama lived in Ayodhya

New Delhi (IBS) - Professor of archaeology B.B Lal has claimed that Lord Rama of the Ramayana epic was born at Ayodhya, and that place was indeed the capital of King Dashrath. Prof. Lal bases his claim on escavations of Ayodhya, Sringeverapura, Bhardwaj Ashram and Mondigram.

However, he felt that the epic dated back factually to 2,800 B.C. The early sages were wrong in pushing the epic very much further back. Scientific dating of various finds from the sites proves that 2,800 B C should be the near date. The location of the sites, though, tallied with details given in the Balmiki Ramayana.

The Ramayana was apparently written sometime about the beginning of the Christian era, and when asked how it contained material purported to have come from 800 to 1,000 years earlier, Prof. Lal said a "soothsayer" had written the Ramayana - thus explaining all things and clearing up all mysteries.

However, Prof. Lal admitted, more seriously, perhaps, that the while the Ramayana was more or less true, lyrical and poetical sages had cluttered up and distorted many portions. There has been, perhaps, much too much 'dressing' of details and exageration of facts, hence ambiguosity and misinterpretation.

MRINAL SEN GOES TO CANNES

New Delhi, May 27 (UNI) — Mr. Sen's Bengali film "Ek Din Prati Din" is India's entry in the competitive section of the festival. It is after a gap of five years that an Indian film has made it to the competitive section of the Cannes Festival.

Prejudice in a Canadian city

By Peter S. Li

The data of this study were collected in the summer of 1978 in Saskatoon, which had a population of approximately 134,000. A systematic sample of 652 telephone interviews was secured, out of a total of 870 operating telephone numbers selected, yielding a response rate of 75 percent. The interviews, which were about ten minutes each, were conducted at different times during the day and the evening.

The respondents were asked five attitudinal questions about Chinese and East Indians with respect to the following:

1. whether Canada has been harmed by their coming;
2. whether the respondent would oppose their immigrating to Canada;
3. whether the respondent would move if they came in great numbers to live in the respondent's district;
4. whether the respondent would move if they came to live next door; and
5. whether the respondent would oppose their becoming a close relative by marriage.

An index of negative attitude towards East Indians and another towards Chinese were computed on the basis of the number of times a respondent ansered affirmatively to the five attitudinal questions.

The table below gives the distributions of negative attitudes towards East Indians and Chinese. The figures show that 41.8 percent of the respondents were opposed to East Indians immigrating to Canada, as compared to 26.5 percent who were opposed to the Chinese. About one-quarter (26.8 percent) thought that Canada had been harmed to East Indians coming into the country, as compared to 26.5 percent who were opposed to the Chinese. About one-quarter (26.8 percent) tought the Canada had been harmed by East Indians coming into the country, as compared to about 10 percent expressing similar view toward the Chinese. Although over 20 percent of the respondents indicated that they would move if large numbers of East Indians came to live in their residential district, only 5 percent said they would move if an East Indian became their immediate neighbour. The corresponding figures regarding the Chinese were 11.5 percent and 2.8 percent, about half the size of the percentages regarding East Indians. A little over 20 percent of of the respondents were opposed to East Indians as close relatives by marriage and about the same percentage held a similar view toward the Chinese. Overall then the Table shows that over 20 percent of the respondents responded negatively towards East Indians on four of the five questions and that the percentages of negative attitudes tended to be smaller when they were asked to respond to the Chinese.

DISCUSSION

This study finds that there is a substantial amount of prejudice toward the Asians in a western Canadian city, as compared to previous national and regional studies in Canada. For example, in response to the question "would you move if colored people came to live in great numbers in your area?", 21 percent answered "yes" in 1959, 14 percent in 1969, and 12 percent in in 1975 in the Canadian Gallup polls(Canadian Institute of Public Opinion, July 23, 1975). Another study conducted in Toronto in 1970 shows that 10 percent of the respondents would not accept an East Indian person as a relative or a neighbor (Richmond, 1974:8). The findings of this study show higher percentages of negative responses toward the Asians (see Table).

Two developments may explain this shift. Since 1975, the federal government launched a national debate on the "green paper" which dealt with proposed changes in the immigration policy. The proposal was partly a reaction to the growing concern of some policy makers over the increasing number of Asian immigrants entering Canada since the 1967 change in the immigration act. The controversial debate, together with deteriorating economic conditions after 1975, resulted in some Asian groups frequently being identified as the cause of economic, housing and other problems. The findings of the present study may reflect some of these changes.

This study also finds that East Indians tend to be perceived more negatively than Chinese. Such negative attitudes are positively correlated with the age and negatively correlated with the education of the respondents. Only a small percentage of the variance in the two indexes is explained, using sex, age, and education as predictors in a regression model. The regression lines are almost parallel to each other, suggesting that education, age and sex operate similarly on negative attitudes toward East Indians and Chinese.

Why the Chinese tend to be perceived more favourably than the East Indians is unclear. It may be related to increased trade between western Canada and China after formal diplomatic relationships between the two countries was established in the early seventies. This in turn may be enhancing the international image of China and consequently improving the social status of the overseas Chinese. In contrast, India is largely perceived by the general public as an under-developed country, haunted by problems of poverty and overpopulation. These images, in turn, may be continuing to tarnish public perceptions of the East Indians in Canada.

Finally, education and age explain only a small proportion of the variations in prejudiced attitudes towards Asian immigrant groups, despite frequent report in the literature of such differences among people with varying educational backgrounds and in different age categories. The present study may suggest a closing of the attitudinal gap between the old and the young as well as between the educated and the less educated. One possible explanation is that there has been a growing number of highly educated Asian immigrants coming to Canada and finding prestigious jobs as professionals and technicians. As a result, these groups may be perceived, especially by the more highly educated, as competing with white Canadians. The poor economic conditions of the seventies and a high unemployment among the younger people suggest that this group too may tend to view certain incoming immigrants as unwelcome competition for scarce jobs.

[Canadian Ethnic Studies]

TABLE NEGATIVE ATTITUDES TOWARDS EAST INDIANS AND CHINESE

Respondents expressing negative attitudes towards	East Indians		Chinese	
	No.	%	No.	%
1. Canada has been harmed by their coming.	175	26.8	63	9.7
2. Oppose to their immigrating to Canada.	269	41.8	173	26.5
3. Move if they come in great numbers to live in my district.	141	21.6	75	11.5
4. Move if they come to live next door.	33	5.1	18	2.8
5. Oppose to their becoming a close relative by marriage.	146	22.4	141	21.6

Air hostesses complain

New Delhi, May 29 (UNI) — Air hostesses moved the Supreme Court against the Indian Airlines services rules which, they alleged discriminated against them on grounds on sex.

In a writ petition, Miss Prabha Rani and 19 other air hostesses alleged that the airline "obviously views female cabin attendants as sex symbols whose utility vanishes at the age of 30 but whose working life can be extended at the discretion of the general manager and subject to medical tests every two years up to forty.

The hostesses urged the Court to declare the Indian Airlines corporation employees service rules as unconstitutional and violative of the fundamental rights under Article 14, 15 and 16 of the constitution.

The hostesses sought invalidation of the service rules which requires them to retire at the age of thirty, seek official permission to marry and to abstain from having children.

They contended that they performed the same functions as flight stewards who were permitted to continue in service up to the age of 58 and against whom there were no restrictions whatsoever on martial status.

The hostesses said in the petition that the "invidious distinction" made between male and female cabin attendants in respect of tenure of service, and permission to marry and rear children, led to low morale of air hostesses who were "frequently made the object of unsavoury jokes".

"Motherhood for a female cabin attendant is taboo. She must either resign or face dismissal."

The petition said, "unlike flight stewards the petitioners cannot look forward to financial security or connubial bliss. Untrained for any other type of work, the petitioners on their premature retirement are threatened by the spectre of financial want and faced with an atrophied existence at a stage when career prospects should have brightened."

Book review

British ex revisited

British: The Magnificent Exploiters of India
By Surinder Nath Gupta, S. Chand and Co., New Delhi, 1979

The British and their rule and role in India have been the subject of many a book written by British and Indian authors before and after India became independent. The book under review zeroes in on one aspect of the British rule- exploitation.

The central theme of the book is: "Why and how Britain was able to topsy-turvey India - one fifth of all humanity in 190 years, from the richest to the poorest country of the world..."

The book is divided into ten chapters. The first chapter describes the glory that was India, the "ingenuity of the Hindoos", the fine quality of the muslins, the excellence in the art of constructing shipping vessels and the Indian bar of iron that "easily surpassed the best Swedish iron". Wrote an Englishman in 1772 that Indian products were so elegant, beautiful and cheap, they "forced their own sale in the remotest regions of the globe..." India was a far greater industrial and manufacturing nation in those days than any country in Europe or Asia.

The next four chapters describe the pillage of India. An American author observed in the 18th century that "the savings of millions of human beings for centuries, the British seized and took to London, as the Romans had taken the spoils of Greece and Pontus to Italy. What the value of the treasure was, no man can estimate but it must have been many million pounds - a vast sum in proportion to the stock of precious metals then owned by Europeans." In the 19th century an organised, systematic and highly successful effort was made to brutally massacre all of India's industries. The railways aided in

Kaul for on Afghan

New Delhi, May 27 (UNI) — On the lines of the Tashkent summit of 1966, India should take the initiative in sorting out differences between Afghanistan and Pakistan, says former Foreign Secretary T.N. Kaul.

Addressing a public meeting on "India's Role in Non-Aligned World" to celebrate the 85th birth anniversary of the late V.K. Krishna Menon, he said: "If the Soviet Union could call a summit to sort out differences between India and Pakistan, why can't India do it in case of Afghanistan and Pakistan."

Mr. Kaul observed that India's foreign policy was still suffering from the "hang-over" of "genuine" non-alignment propagated by the Janata Government under Morarji Desai. If this was not so, there would not have been such an "inordinate" delay in recognising the new Kampuchean Government.

While India had recognised the new regimes in Iran and Uganda, it had not yet recognised Kampuchea.

Expressing the hope that after the Assembly elections in nine States, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will be able to "put together the tool and instruments of India's dynamic policy of non-alignment," Mr. Kaul suggested that the country should initiate the process for a treaty of mutual cooperation and non-aggression between India, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. "The same can be done in the case of

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The next two chapters deal with agriculture and agriculturists - the land tenure system, sub-division and fragmentation of holdings, the landless peasants and irrigation. The notorious Indian famines that claimed millions of lives is the main topic of the following chapter. How India, "the most valuable of the world's colonies" contributed immensely to the British coffers is discussed before assessing the economic consequences of British rule, such as growing poverty.

In conclusion, it is stated that both Mahatma Gandhi and Winston Churchill agreed on the effect of the British rule in India. For Mahatma Gandhi, it was a "curse", a "satanic rule". Churchill said: "Our rule in India is wrong and has always been wrong for India."

The author, Mr. Gupta has done a considerable and creditable amount of research for this book. He uses western authors and brings to sharp focus the economic disaster India experienced as a result of the brutal exploitation of the country. Having divided his life time almost equally between India and the West, Mr. Gupta, a teacher of history, is eminently qualified for conducting such a study. This well-researched, well-organized and well-written book will be an eye-opener especially to the young people of Indian origin currently growing up in the West. The book will help to instill in them a sense of pride in their ancestry, heritage and culture. However, the point not to lose sight of is: history cannot be erased.

Kaul for summit on Afghanistan

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He said though Mrs.Gandhi had the will to restore 'dynamism' to the country's foreign policy, she did not have a man with the vision of Krishna Menon to help her.

Mr. Kaul said though India turned away from the principle of non-alignment by giving currency to the "half-baked" theme of "genuine" non-alignment during the Janata regime, it still had an important role to play in the movement.

With the passing away of Jawaharlal Nehru, Col Nasser and Marshal Tito, the mantle had now fallen on leaders like Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Julius Nyrere of Tanzania and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

Though the increase in the membership had given rise to divergence in views, the movement had to be sustained to remove "racialism" and "colonialism" from the world, he added.

P.N. Haksar, former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and one-time Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, said the foreign policy should not consist of simply wearing a "chastity belt and saying we are non-aligned."

The integration of foreign policy with the tasks of providing internal stability, justice and eradicating poverty would render it more effective, he added.

Reflections in An Indian Eye

Return of a celluloid God

By A.F. Ashtamadi

Drama and cinema. Cinema and politics. Politics and drama. This is the story of the Dravidian movement in Tamilnadu for almost 30 years. It is also the story of MGR, the celluloid god of the south Indian screen.

Now unceremoniously dethroned from political power, MGR has reportedly gone back to his old love, cinema. But cinema and politics are so intertwined in Tamilnadu that they complement each other. Even as cinema is obliged to politics for its popularity and revolutionary content, politics is indebted to the cinema for the abiding interest of the masses. As their fortune turns, film makers transform into politicians and politicians into film makers.

Although not among the founders of the party, the most prominent of the film artists associated with the Dravidian movement came to be MGR, "idol of the masses". M. Gopala Ramachandran is a Malayalee born in Kandy, Ceylon, where his father was the principal of a college. In 1920, when he was just three years old, his father died and the family moved to Tamilnadu in abject poverty. Shortly thereafter his two sisters and a brother died. At the age of six, MGR entered 'The Madurai Original Boys Company', a dramatic troupe where he learned dancing, acting, and sword fighting -- techniques which were to serve him well in his later film career. In his early films, MGR played a variety of minor roles, often in devotional or mythological films. MGR played a variety of minor roles, often in devotional or mythological films. Since 1947, when he had his first major role, he has played in nearly 200 films and is even today the highest paid star in South India.

Known as "Vadiyar" (teacher) and "Makkal Thilagam" (idol of the masses), MGR is a shining symbol of hope for the oppressed and the poor in Tamilnadu. A young agricultural labourer in a village near Madras performs puja before MGR's picture. When raging fires destroyed huts in a slum colony, he gave hundred thousand rupees for relief and announced that the hundredth day of a film would not be celebrated because of the slum dwellers' sufferings. As one poverty stricken villager put it 'He is always there when the huts are burning". He is always the first to give for disaster relief; he supports orphanages and schools. Once after torrential rains caused havoc in Madras, he gave raincoats emblazened with the DMK insignia to 6000 rickshaw pullers. MGR himself once said in an interview "I give the money that I get from the people back to them". He is therefore seen as "one among the people", "the incarnation of goodness", "the poor man's avatar".

MGR sees himself as the protector of the common man and is convinced of the moral purpose of his films. The MGR film, like most Indian films, is a variety show -- three hours of high drama, slapstick comedy, at least half a dozen songs, two or three dance numbers, and as many fight scenes as the script can bear. It must contain, according to formula, something for everyone. The story must be basically familiar and broadly acceptable; domestic virtues must be stressed, however suggestive or vulgar particular scenes or dances may be. Dharma must always triumph. Sacrifice is almost a sure guaranty of success. There is always "box office" in the story of a young man who sacrifices his own personal happiness for his crippled sister or ungrateful brother, or of a mother who gives everything for the success and happiness of her prodigal son.

The rickshaw puller and the poor landless labourer are often regarded as archetypes of the MGR fan. In fact MGR won the Best Actor award for his role of a revolutionary sword rickshawman in the Tamil film "Rickshawalla". Even the most destitute of MGR fans willingly forgo a meal or recklessly spend a major portion of their income to see MGR films. Attending the premiere showing of an MGR film is considered to be the ultimate in true devotion. The exhibitions of fan loyalty are intense. Fans willingly brave police lathis and suffer the tedium of a long wait to gain admission at a theatre.

Inside the theatre, applause punctuates all references to the late C.N. Annadurai (founder of the DMK) in MGR films. The fight scenes are wildly cheered. Any insult hurled at the star can very easily bring on a fight as this writer witnessed in 1977 in the coastal town of Nagapattinam. Several years ago there was a stampede on the first day of a new MGR film in Madurai. Two people were killed and because they died in devotion of the star, MGR asked the producer to give their families 5000 rupees each. In essence, MGR has become a demi-god.

Pictures abound everywhere. MGR against the banner of the DMK. MGR as Christ in a beatific pose. MGR in spacesuit with DMK insignia as the first man on the sun. MGR among multicolored lighographs of gods and mahatmas. These are some of the relics of omnipresent fan worship in Tamilnadu. In Madras at the famous Moore Market a tattoo artist will embroider your skin with the everlasting image of MGR.

The typical MGR film is a morality play where the actor and his role become one. The man becomes a projection of the role. In 'Enga Vittu Pillai' MGR sings: "If you follow me, the poor will never suffer. First Christ came and preached; then Gandhi came and preached; but the people have forgotten. Now I will set things right." In 'Nam Nadu' (Our country) the hero is introduced in a series of short episodes: he helps an old woman walk across the street; captures a pickpocket; protects a young girl from "eve-teasers", and saves small children from eating unclean sweets. Later, as the film progresses, there is a long queue before a ration shop. A rich man arrives by car and is immediately taken care of. MGR intervenes and asks the man to stand in the queue. Someone in the queue is heard to say: 'If there is one like this man, then the country will be all right". In the same film when the hero arrives to help some slum dwellers, one of them says "really, you are a god". Each of the incidents brings applause and shouts of approval.

For the fan, MGR's personal morality is unimpeachable. He neither smokes nor drinks and lives a life of simplicity. His mother is his god; service to the poor his religion. After all, said one MGR fan, "the gods, Buddha, Christ - they lived long ago and we know nothing about the way they lived, but in film stars like MGR we see the qualities of the Gods.

Today, MGR is working on a new film 'Anna En Deivam' (Annadurai, you are my God) which was released on the Tamil New Year Day, April 15, 1980, just four weeks before the state assembly elections. The film was actually begun a few years ago but abandoned midway when MGR led his breakaway party AIADMK to victory and became the Chief Minister in 1977. Meanwhile MGR's political rival Karunanidhi of the divided DMK, has formed an alliance with Congress(I) in the forthcoming elections. In a calculated move, two new MGR films as well as reissues of popular classic MGR films are slated for release all over Tamilnadu in the coming weeks.

The year of the vulture

Karvi (Uttar Pradesh) (UNI) — This is the year of the vulture in the Bundelkhand region, devastated by a drought described by many as unprecedented.

Emaciated cattle, abandoned by their owners, roam the parched countryside only to die of thirst.

They now die in ones and twos. If the situation worsens, as seems likely, there will be decimation.

The air is heavy with the stink and a depressing sight a traveller frequently encounters is of flocks of vultures gorging on decaying carcases.

Hundreds of them perch on gaunt trees in grim content.

Blinding dust storms whip across the harsh landscape where even trees are withering.

Wells, ponds and rivulets have dried up and small farmers, in their struggle to keep themselves alive, have been selling their possessions one after the other.

A water scaractiy village, according to the administration's definition, is one having a source of drinking water supply 1.5 km away or at a depth of more than 15 metres underground.

Each scarcity village, as also those which are likely to be so declared, have been identified and blueprints prepared for sinking tubewells, installing hand pumps and deepening the existing wells.

Officials and engineers on the job look haggard after weeks of gruelling tours and nightlong vigils to prevent cutting of water mains by desperate farmers.

However, barring a solitary case there has been no major incident.

The worst-hit are the upper caste marginal farmers. They are in abject misery having sold first their belongings and now part of their land. Pride inhibits them from working on the food-for-work schemes.

The conditions in the contiguous Madhya Pradesh areas defy description. Uttar Pradesh officials fear a large-scale influx from that side as the relief operations in Uttar Pradesh are much better.

Madhya Pradesh pays a daily wage of two kg of grains and one rupee in cash under the food for work schemes compared to five kg of grains paid in Uttar Pradesh.

Nearly half of the 440 villages in Datia, the smallest district in Madhya Pradesh, are facing acute shortage of drinking water.

With the installation of five tube-wells ten days ago in Moreka village, the people are getting an average five gallons per head a day. Earlier, they were getting two gallons each every second day.

India and technology ...3

Dr. Daniel Thomas

[Continued from last issue]

More effective than the Buddhist theory was the absolutism of 'Sankara'. Sonyavada was replaced by Mayavada. The genius of 'Sankara performed two functions, it synthesised different trends of traditional Vedic and Upanisadic literature and at the same time drove away Buddhism with the weapons of the Buddhist armoury itself. 'Sankara propounded the view that the Brahman (the Absolute) is the ultimate Reality, the individual self is one with the ultimate Self and the phenomenal world is nothing but appearance. Though he gave a concession to the world by assigning practical reality to it, after the realisation of the Brahman it was supposed to be valueless. This devaluation of the world caused much harm to the social progress. People started condemning the world even without making an effort to understand the meaning of either 'Sankara or of the nature of the Real. And this became the philosophy of the mass age in India in due course. Instead of making gradual progress towards spiritualism in the light of four ends and stages described earlier, persons rushed up to ascetic life. If Buddha opened the realm of spirit to all castes at once, 'Sankara opened it for all ages. Once a boy monk of ten, when asked why he entered the ascetic life so early, replied that knowing that this is the final stage he could not make delay. 'Sankara's tremendous active and practical life, though very short, could not attract Indian mind as compared to his spiritual doctrine. 'Sankara's absolutism stayed since 9th century as the most influential view in India. It was only in the 19th century that Western technological materialism entered India and a group of people became sceptical towards the worth of the spiritual outlook.

The change of outlook was not accidental. It was due to political, social and economic conditions prevailing in the country. Continuous Moslem attacks and British exploitation made Indian pocket empty. Public was economically paralysed. Political pressures at that moment of poverty compelled many to change their religions and standpoints. In this background introduction of technology produced horror and cheer both. Those who were depressed economically and non-discriminating mentally welcomed technology. But those who were more far-sighted doubted the utility of technology for India as well as for the world at large in the long run. Swami Vivekanada, Sri Aurobindo, Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave are few great names in modern India who understood the disaster of technology and all of them tried to give either a synthetic and compromising solution or an alternative of tchenology.

Swami Vivekanada realised very acutely the dialogue going on in the Indian mind at that time and tried to give a solution of the problem. He notes the dilemma:

"On the one side, new India is saying, 'If we adopt Western ideas, Western language, Western food, Westen dress, and Western manners, we shall be as strong and powerful as the Western nations;' on the other, old India is saying, 'Fools! By imitation, other's ideas never become one's own; nothing, unless earned, is your own. Does the ass in the lion's skin become the lion?"

On the one side, new India is saying,' what the Western nations do is surely good, otherwise how did they become so great?' On the other side, old India is saying, 'The flash of lightning is intensely bright, but only for a moment; look out, boys, it is dazzling your eyes. Beware!"

Have we not then, Swamiji asks, to learn anything from the West? And in the spirit of great poet Kalidasa who said that everything old is not good as everything new is not bad or vice versa, Vivekananda replies, yes, there are many things to learn from the West: but there are fears as well. In the union and intermingling of the ancient Indian spiritualism and modern Western technique the danger is this: "In this huge wave of Western spirit are washed away all our most precious jewels, earned through ages of hard labour; there is fear of falling into its strong whirlpool; there is fear of going to imitate the impossible and impracticable foreign ways, rooting out as they do our national customs and ideals, we lose all that we hold dear in this life and be undone in the next!"

In order to avoid such dangers, Vivekananda suggested brilliantly that "we must always keep the wealth of our own home before our eyes, so that every one down to the masses may always know and see what his own ancestral property is. We must exert ourselves to do that; and side by side, we should be brave to open our doors to receive all available light from outside. Let rays of light come in, in sharp driving showers from the four corners (quarters) of the earth; let the intense flood of light flow in from the West — what of that? Whatever is weak and corrupt is liable to die — what are we to do with it? If it goes, let it go, what harm does it do to us? What is strong and invigorating is immortal. Who can destroy that?"

Vivekananda thinks that though India and West had different traditions, it is now time for them to unite. He says: "The history of the past has gone to develop the inner life of India and activity (i.e. the outer life) of the West. Hitherto these have been divergent. The time has now come for them to unite. . . . Let your life be as deep as the ocean, but let it also be as wide as the sky."

The Hindu Monk (as was he famous in West) had a firm faith in the younger generation, the modern generation. The younger generation has tremendous energy to undertake and fulfil any hard task. But this energy has to be controlled. He suggests the method of self-control prescribed in the Yoga system. He warned them against uncontrolled life and becoming slaves of desire. He very painfully noted the technological ways of fulfilling desires: "With our arts and sciences improved and multiplied, our desires cannot be fulfilled (either). On the other hand, we are struggling to perfect means for the fulfillment of desires, and desires are increasing."

[To be continued]

Immigration to the U.S.

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Tel. (212) 964-6420

Mother in Hinduism ...3

By Dr. Shiv Chopra

[Continued from last issue]

As soon as Vasudeva arrives back in the prison cell and the doors slam shut behind him, the baby lets out a cry. Awoken with a jolt, springing up to their feet, the guards go racing to Kansa to deliver the message about the birth of the new child. Kansa, in his fury, rushes to the scene and snatches the infant girl from the hands of Kunti. Holding the child by her tender feet, swinging her furiously in the air, he smashes her head on the floor. The girl dies instantly.

At this moment, a flash of lightning weaves through across the sky and an immense thunderbolt strikes. In the name of the deceased, an echoing female voice pervades:

"Hey, you Kansa, the fool of fools, man of false pride and ego, you who so selfishly wished to indulge in the sensual pleasures of life forever; you who wanted to rule through eternity against the wishes of Prakriti, you who so foolishly believed yourself to be in control, I have bewitched you by offering myself in your hands as the sacrifice in place of the Great One who was born and abducted out of this jail while you were insanely immersed in the enjoyment of sensual pleasures and while your guards lay anaesthetized under my hypnotic influence. That Great One, Krishna is alive and well in the tender fold of my mother who shall foster him until it is time for you to be no more. At that time That Great One shall become the cause of your end."

The authors of the story of Krishna's abduction produce a jam-tight argument in favour of the omnipresence and omnipotence of the mother's decisive role as the creatrix of the phenomenon of sexual differentiation by presenting a psychological explanation to the doubting male. The Ramayana had already described that although the female possesses the capacity to procreate through parthenogenesis, she purposely chooses the alternative route of gametogenesis whereby creating a male partner she establishes a system of cyclical evolution and devolution and thus her own perpetuity in the story of Rama's romance the male and female germ cells and their descendant sperm and ovum accept their respective roles as servant and served which are represented in the bodies of Rama and Sita as incarnates of Vishnu and Laxmi. In the story of Krishna's abduction, the male rejects his subservient role and adopts a totally defiant stance. Above all he refuses to accept the idea of his being a mere carrier of her germ which would have to be delivered back to her when she so commands, particularly when the result of his obedience is supposed to become the cause of his own annihilation.

The author of the story develops a most intricate and instructive synthesis of the biological and psychological play of the respective male and female principles in the phenomena of gametogenesis, fertilization, pregnancy, gestation, birth and death, and produces an incontestable demonstration of the ultimate superiority of the female within each of these objective experiences in the phenomenal world.

On the biological side the author produces the evidence to show that, unlike in the female, a self-induced conception in the male cannot occur, not only because of his apparent anatomical deficiencies but more fundamentally because of the type of gametes that he has been entitled to possess. While a subdivision of the female germ cell produces gametocytes with XX and XX chromosomes, a similar division of the male germ cell produces gametocytes which are differentiated into XX and XY chromosomal groupings. Therefore, while a reunion between the XX and XX in the mother can produce an offspring, a similar reunion between XX and XY on the male side results in self extinction. The only hope for the male germ cell is in its active seeking of a female counterpart outside the body of the male. Unless that is done, the male gametes remain lodged in the cell cavities of the testicular tissue of the male.

On the psychological side of the argument, the author provides an amazing insight which the modern analysts describe in such terms as the collective consciousness, the unconscious and the male and female archetypes. Having already established the male gamete's determinant role in the sexual objectification of the offspring born through sexual fertilization, the author goes so far as suggesting that Kansa's sperms are constituted of certain anatomical parts which have typically male or female physiological characteristics and that these component parts are composed of typically male and female archetypic psychological characteristics.

Kunti, the female principle, is located in the head (round) of both XX and XY sperm cells while Vasudeva, the male principle, is represented in the actively flagellating tail. Vasudeva is obliged to offer himself to transport the Vishnu incarnating germ (Krishna), enwrapped and enclosed in the basket (membranous enclosure of the sperm head), out of Kansa's prison (testicular recesses) while Kansa's guards (sensory and motor functions) are under hypnosis of pleasure (maya, magic, miracle) through the dark corridors of the prison (seminiferous tubules), across the river Jamna (urethral tube) into the welcoming fold of Yashodhara (Krishna's foster mother) who willingly allows Krishna to steal (parasitic fetal life) in order to flourish on the milk and butter (mother's blood) produced by her labour by raising the cows (uterine villi) in the fields of Vrindaban (uterus).

[To be continued]

Soviet support welcomed

Dharamsala (M.P.) (UNI) — Welcoming a Soviet offer to support the Tibetan cause, the Dalai Lama says his taking Russian help will "depend on circumstances."

The exiled Tibetan leader, however, declined during an interview to spell out the conditions under which he would seek Soviet assistance.

He said the Soviet attitude had changed over the past few years. They had realized the true nature of the Tibetan struggle and begun supporting the Tibetan position.

"This change is good and welcome," he said.

The Dalai Lama was commenting on a Soviet religious officer's remarks indicating Moscow's readiness to support the Tibetan cause.

Jawaharlal Nehru receiving Marshal Tito in New Delhi during an official visit in the 50's while Mrs. Gandhi looks on. Mrs. Gandhi attended Marshal Tito's funeral in Belgrade on May 8, 1980.

FILM

SANKARABHARANAM
[Telugu]

Directed by K. Vishwanath

Produced by Edida Naga Rao and Akasam Sriramulu

The South is the preserve exponent of Indian culture, ially in the fields of danc music. Since the revival classical dances, Bharatana Kuchipudi and others, ther been great interest amon North Indians to learn them practice them and preach t

There are many similaritie dissimilarities in Karnata Hindustani music. A few ragas of both the systems common **tals and taans. S abharanam and Shuddha** are considered akin to each both have complete sca ascent and descent - a fea difficult to achieve for a si **Sankarabharanam** is a fa with the classical dancer singers. So it was appro that a film should be made an exponent of this raga Vishwanath, a very succ film-maker whose last film **Siri Muvva** and its Hindi r **Sargam** have been box-offic wrote his own screenplay w about the popularity and pl a dedicated exponent of **arabharanam**.

Story-wise the film is in ing, but much more appea its music, especially of m compositions. The film wo awards in the 27th Nationa Festival, results of which announced on April 1, 1980. are: Best feature film with appeal, wholesome ente ment, and aesthetic value music direction (to K V Ma van), best male playback (S P Balasubrahmanyam) a female playback singer Jayaram). It is a treat to r one's seat and listen Karnatak music with all its icality and purity, in the fi

It is the first time in the N Film Festival that a film ha all the awards in the music The mode, mood and mus of the compositions come the audience only if the track is very good and its ing is of some excellence that reason, the film shoul got the best sound rec award. But the Jury withh award - which sounds odd background music blend with the overall theme of t and the dialogue recording of excellent quality. A award which the film shou bagged easily, is that of t child actor but only if the J exercised its judgement jously.

The ten-year-old kid has photogenic features, but expressive face and a goo so far as ad-libbing the concerned. He captures t of not only the **Sankarabh** exponent in the film but the audience. In com Baby Geeta, who got t child actor award for her role in **Aangan Ki Ka** precocious child like a children. She is the c trouble and annoyance adopted parents and is model child that kids wou emulate. Her voice dubbed and hardly has "acting" qualities.

Sankarabharanam is good, in music and da **Hamsegeethe**, the Kann directed and produced lyer, a few years ago. Ha the was also about musicians. It was shot c the hilly areas of K where it is no less Herculean job to carry paraphernalia of shootin ment. It had an off-bea competitions between tw

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FILMS

SANKARABHARANAM
[Telugu]

Directed by K. Vishwanath

Produced by Edida Nageswara Rao and Akasam Sriramulu

The South is the preserver and exponent of Indian culture, especially in the fields of dance and music. Since the revival of the classical dances, Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi and others, there has been great interest among the North Indians to learn them, and practice them and preach them.

There are many similarities and dissimilarities in Karnatak and Hindustani music. A few of the ragas of both the systems have common **tals and tanns. Sankarabharanam and Shuddha Bilaval** are considered akin to each other, both have complete scale in ascent and descent - a feat very difficult to achieve for a singer. **Sankarabharanam** is a favourite with the classical dancers and singers. So it was appropriate that a film should be made about an exponent of this raga. K. Vishwanath, a very successful film-maker whose last film, **Siri Siri Muvva** and its Hindi remake **Sargam** have been box-office hits, wrote his own screenplay which is about the popularity and plight of a dedicated exponent of **Sankarabharanam.**

Story-wise the film is interesting, but much more appealing is its music, especially of musical compositions. The film won four awards in the 27th National Film Festival, results of which were announced on April 1, 1980. They are: Best feature film with mass appeal, wholesome entertainment, and aesthetic value; best music direction (to K V Mahadevan), best male playback singer **(SP Balasubrahmanyam) and best** female playback singer (Vani Jayaram). It is a treat to relax in one's seat and listen to the Karnatak music with all its classicality and purity, in the film.

It is the first time in the National Film Festival that a film has won all the awards in the music field. The mode, mood and musicality of the compositions come across the audience only if the soundtrack is very good and its recording is of some excellence. For that reason, the film should have got the best sound recording award. But the Jury withheld the award - which sounds odd. The background music blends well with the overall theme of the film and the dialogue recording is also of excellent quality. Another award which the film should have bagged easily, is that of the best child actor but only if the Jury had exercised its judgement judiciously.

The ten-year-old kid has not only photogenic features, but has an expressive face and a good mime so far as ad-libbidng the ragas is concerned. He captures the heart of not only the **Sankarabharanam** exponent in the film but also of the audience. In comparison, Baby Geeta, who got the best child actor award for her childish role in **Aangan Ki Kali**, is a precocious child like all filmy children. She is the cause of trouble and annoyance to her adopted parents and is not a model child that kids would like to emulate. Her voice is also dubbed and hardly has she any "acting" qualities.

Sankarabharanam is not as good, in music and dance, as **Hamsegeethe**, the Kannada film directed and produced by G V Iyer, a few years ago. **Hamsegeethe** was also about Karnatak musicians. It was shot entirely in the hilly areas of Karnataka where it is no less than a Herculean job to carry all the paraphernalia of shooting equipment. It had an off-beat story: competitions between two classical musicians - a young exponent and a veteran - and their two danseuse-disciples. It did not have the commercial angle that **Sankarabharanam** has. Yet in the singing of Karnatak classical music, **Sankarabharanam** is an experience, as it is thoroughly sweetened with classical music.

J.V. Somayajulu plays the Sankarabharanam Sankarasastry, the raga exponent, with rare sensitivity, and resourceful Manju Bhargavi plays the prostitute's daughter in love with music and dreaming of dancing one day to the tunes of Sankarasastry, whom she considers her guru. She underplays her role with a subtle delineation. There is a moving poignancy without any effort. Baby Tulasi, the kid who plays the young musician, is a sheer joy to watch. There is neither pretension in her playing nor precociousness in her character.

K. Visnwanath is a formidable cinema acumen. Hindi remakes of his Telugu films have been received with a storm of applause, like **Jeevan Jyoti and Sargam.** And we know they were received with greater acclaim in the South.

DARSHAK in Democratic World.

AAP KE DEWANE

Directed by Surendera Mohan

Produced by Vimal Kumar

Hindi film-makers cry from housetops that they don't get good stories. But when they come across one, they don't know how to develop and bring it to a judicious finale. The story of **Aap Ke Dewane** is exceptionally good, not tackled on the Hindi screen so far. Its screenplay is interesting but only in parts, especially in the comedy sequences. When it comes to the finale, the story-screenplay writers (Mirza brothers) and dialogue writer (Madan Joshi) don't know how to bring it to a convincing conclusion. Only if they had thought about it hard, given it a twist, they would surely have come across a different end, much more justifiable than the present one.

Two friends land a teaching job each in the same household. They had to teach Urdu and Hindi to the daughter of two retired middle-aged men, one a Muslim and the other a Hindu. The two old men had picked up an abandoned child and brought her up as their own common daughter. They differ on whose surname she should take - of the Muslim or the Hindu father. She takes fancy to both her young teachers, each wooing her in his own special way. Whom should she marry? That is the problem - each wants to sacrifice his love for the other.

The first half is introduction of the characters, unfolding of a few funny situations and eccentricities of the two "fathers", each wanting their common "daughter" to get his surname. The second half is confined to dramatic finale and a few intricacies of plotline, which has in it the germs of an exceptional film. **Aap Ke Dewane** is not as good and **remarkable as its plotline.**

It is not a multi-star movie, yet it would fall in that category. Two heroes, both friends, hogging an equal footage. Two character artists, both sharing the same household, getting equal importance. One heroine, sandwiched between two suitors and two "fathers," and one villain who is out to violate the modesty of the heroine. There are "special appearances" by jumping Jeetendra for a mad dance sequence, and Shoma Anand for leg show.

Ashok Kumar and Pran carry on their antics a la **Victoria No. 203**, though not as amusingly. The two "thesps" do their best to put pep and bounce in their "fathers" roles but they are hampered by the lack of funny situations. Rishi Kapoor and Raakesh Roshan match their "heroic" wits. If Raakesh Roshan is "queer" in a lady teacher's garb, Rishi Kapoor emotes better and has a better sense of timing. Comedian Deven Verma entertains only as Deven Verma can - the tongue-in-cheek fupster is not broad and wild in his mannerism like other funsters. Ranjeet has not to make any effort to play his screen image of a villain. Tina Munim, Dev Anand's discovery, is at her wits' end and seems lost between two heroes and two "fathers." She is not called upon to do much except to look glamorous and babyish.

Film producers to promote export

Madras, May 29 (UNI) — Film producers in South India have formed an export promotion council, reports the Financial Express.

According to a spokesman of the industry, this step has been necessitated by the step-motherly treatment meted out by the Union Government in the matter of finding overseas markets for South Indian regional films.

The South Indian Film Export Promotion Council (SIFEPC) described as the first of its kind in the country, will serve as a regular canvassing agent for South Indian films in the international market.

The council has already approached non-traditional markets such as Latin American and Socialist countries. Sale of nearly a dozen films mostly Kannada, have almost been finalised.

Although there is no clear market for South Indian films at present, Tamil films are said to be popular in Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore, while Telugu films have a limited market in the UK, US, Singapore and Malaysia and Indo-China. A market has been created for Malayalam films in recent years in the Gulf countries, but it is reportedly on the wane.

Meanwhile, the number of films made in South India have increased by leaps and bounds in the last few years. As many as 461 films were certified in 1979, aainst 389 in 1978 and 324 in 1977.

However, the number of films certified in the first four months of 1980 has fallen by 23 films to 149, compared to the corresponding period last year when 172 films were certified. This is attributed to the estimated 33 per cent decline in the number of Malayalam films certified this year.

On the other hand, a boom in Telugu film production is expected. Production this year is expected to touch 150 against 127 last year. Till April, 53 films had already been certified.

Tamil and Kannada are expected to maintain the status quo around 133 and 54, respectively.

The number of films under production as on May 1, were an unprecedented 1,002 of which 620 were in colour and the rest black and white.

This development is attributed to the mushroom growth of producers and the entry of new artistes.

This will most certainly result in a jam on the distribution front. According to one estimate, about 25,000 theatres are required to give adequate outlet to all the films made in the country. But, there are only 10,00 theatres. At present about 100 to 125 southern language films are awaiting screening. The growth of theatres is not commensurate, with the rate of film production.

Meanwhile, producers of both black and white and colour films are expected to incur an additional Rs 1 lakh each in the cost of production owing to the recent hike in raw stock prices.

Prices of black and white positive and sound negative have risen, to Rs. 388 and Rs 433, respectively, against Rs 319 and Rs 359 in the beginning of 1979. Prices of imported raw stock like Orwo colour negative, Eastman colour negative and Fuji colour negative are expected to increase by at least Rs 500 by June.

This, it is feared will soon erase the low budget film maker from the film industrial map.

One such is 16 mm and super 16 mm blow-up and the other is the half frame technology like techniscope.

The first method envisages the direct blowing up of the 16 mm to 35 mm without resorting to an intermittent negative.

The half-frame technology, straightway conserves 50 per cent of the negative use. From the point of view of cost, this system is worth exploring as the picture definition has been found to be satisfactory, unlike 16 mm blow-up which does entail a certain loss of definition.

Canada to buy textiles

NEW DELHI (IBS) — An agreement between Canada and India has been reached which will provide for higher levels of textile export, India's export earnings will increase by about 50 per cent.

The agreement will be approved by the Governments of the two countries shortly and is considered significant because the agreement has eluded the two sides for the past 18 months

Officials of both countries were able to conclude the pact in Ottawa a few days ago. The agreement is reckoned to result in additional business of 14 million dollars, and will hike up to 16 million within a year. Canada has now about 30 million dollars worth of trade with India in textiles.

The Indian delegation to Ottawa also held talks with US Buyers but they could not reach any firm agreement on designs of kurtas and pajamas.

Poet's corner

UNSAID

Living within the **adharma** of your mind
you have called me unfaithful names
worse than those said in moments of
intoxication

Beneath my own powers of escape
I was condensed in my consciousness,
which was to be a human realization.

You have robbed one of the jewels of the
world its place on the Throne of Time
by looking at an isolated speck of Life.

Looking through the inpenetrable Curtain
of Time, I said: "The Truth that is
unsaid, and lies within, is greater than

a spoken word expressed by a dumb man."
But you did not understand.
Be a seeker of **satyam...anandam** (joy).

Nirmala Singh

Surya case stalled

New Delhi (UNI) — Additional chief metropolitan magistrate S. M. Aggarwal took up trial of two defamation cases against Mrs. Maneka Gandhi and her mother Amteshwar Anand after a metropolitan magistrate declined to try them further.

V.B. Gupta metropolitan magistrate, had sent the case files to Mr. Aggarwal earlier, requesting him to transfer them to some other court. He said "due to certain reasons I do not want to try this case." Mr. Gupta did not specify the reasons.

Both the defamation cases relate to an article published by "Surya India" in its December 1978 issue titled "CIA paid snoops in the media." They have been filed by Nand Kishore Trikha, special correspondent of the Navbharat Times, and Prithvis Chakravarti, chief of bureau of the Hindustan Times.

Mr. Gupta's decision not to try the two cases came five days after his directive to Mrs. Maneka Gandhi and her mother to admit or deny whether they were respectively editors and publishers and printer of "Surya India" in December 1978.

Gavaskar does well

NEW DELHI (IBS) — India's top-notch opening batsman and former Test captain, Sunil Gavaskar, made a memorable debut in English count cricket when he, along with Somerset Skipper Brian Rose, featured in a record stand of 241 runs to whip Kent by as much as nine wickets. Gavaskar chalked up 90.

He was playing for the first time for an English county, having replaced the West Indian batting star Viv Richards. In the one-day popular Benson and Hedges Cup match at Canterbury while he was out just 10 runs from his century, Rose remained unbeaten with 137.

Except for being somewhat slower in scoring than the formidable Richards, Gavaskar did himself and his country proud with his first English performance. After Kent was out for 242, he and his captain defied everything Kent could send down by way of an attack.

Gavaskar surrendered the Indian captaincy before the start of the sixth and final test against Pakistan in India last winter.

Seen the typical Canadian lately?

Take a look in the mirror.

Multiculturalism / The Canadian Experience.

Honourable Jim Fleming
Minister of State
Multiculturalism

L'honourable Jim Fleming
Ministre d'Etat
Multiculturalisme

Canada

Shastri I

The Government of India has approved the following awards made by the Shastri Institute for 1980:

Short Term Senior Fellowships

Dr. Kenneth Bryant (University of British Columbia).
Dr. T.O. Elsemon (McGill) Junior Fellowships
Mrs. I.M. Anderson (McMaster)
Ms. Carole-Anne O'Grady (Manitoba) Language Grant
Mr. John Calder (University of British Columbia)

Humor wi

A Nepean high school student's five-minute speech Saturday in Toronto earned him a one-metre trophy and a $500 university scholarship.

Partho Ghosh won the prizes in the Ontario finals of a speaking contest for youths under 16 put on by the Optimist International Club. The 15-year-old Sir Robert Borden high school student started training for the contest through a series of elimination matches starting in Ottawa last January.

He used the same basic speech on the decline in moral standards and increase in pollution resulting from world growth - for each elimination. "But I added a few new jokes for each one."

He's practised his speech for about 45 minutes a day since January. "I figure I've read it at least 500 times."

He faced some of his stiffest competition in Saturday's contest. Five other regional finalists were competing. Some of them

Canadian mother to be extradited

NEW DELHI (IBS) — mother who allegedly kidnapped her minor son to Canada was ordered to be extradited to India. Metropolitan Magistrate Pres Kumar ordered that a letter be written to the External Affairs Ministry, asking that proceedings be instituted against the woman Mrs. Neera Badhwar. The magistrate fixed September 8, for the woman's appearance before him.

Lt. Col. Deepak Badhwar filed a case alleging that his wife had come to Delhi from Calcutta on December 12, 1977 along with their 12 year old son to visit her relations. After that the woman and her son took off for Canada without his consent and without informing him.

Grants

GRANTS

NACOI Ottawa Chapter has received a grant of $2,500 from the City of Ottawa to organise a program which will bring together children of various ethnic racial and cultural backgrounds. Dr. Satya Bhatnagar coordinated the program.

Deshantari - Bengali Multicultural Association received $500

WHOLESALE PRICES HIT NEW PEAK

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) The official wholesale price index for all commodities (base 1970-71) which hs been continuously rising from the beginning of the current financial year, touched a new peak at 235.3 (provisional) during the, week ended May 3 against 233.9 (provisional) for the previous week.

At this level the index is higher by 19.1 per cent compared to the corresponding week last year, says an official release.

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Short Term Senior Fellowships

Dr. Kenneth Bryant (University of British Columbia).
Dr. T.O. Elsemon (McGill) Junior Fellowships
Mrs. L.M. Anderson (McMaster)
Ms. Carole-Anne O'Grady (Manitoba) Language Grant
Mr. John Calder (University of British Columbia)

Fellowship in the Performing Arts
Miss Rosemary Jones (York)

The Institute has an annual Scholarship competition and offers the following categories of award for study or research in India: Senior Fellowships; Faculty Training Rants; Junior Fellowships; Lanugauge Training Fellowships Fellowships in the Performing Arts.

The Deadline for receiving applications for all categories of award is October 10. For further information write to:

The Executive Director
Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute
McGill University
815 Sherbrooke St. W.
Montreal, H3A 2K6

Humor wins contest

A Nepean high school student's five-minute speech Saturday in Toronto earned him a one-metre trophy and a $500 university scholarship.

Partho Ghosh won the prizes in the Ontario finals of a speaking contest for youths under 16 put on by the Optimist International Club. The 15-year-old Sir Robert Borden high school student started training for the contest through a series of elimination matches starting in Ottawa last January.

He used the same basic speech on the decline in moral standards and increase in pollution resulting from world growth - for each elimination. "But I added a few new jokes for each one."

He's practised his speech for about 45 minutes a day since January. "I figure I've read it at least 500 times."

He faced some of his stiffest competition in Saturday's contest. Five other regional finalists were competing. Some of them had professional elocution tutors while Ghosh tutored himself, with some help from one of his teachers.

Ghosh intends to use the scholarship to go to McGill University next year after finishing grade 13. He wants to study law.

(The Ottawa Journal).

Mathews honoured

Dr. Titus Mathews of Calgary, past chairman of the Committee of South Asians, was presented with **A Good Servant Award** by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews on 9 April, 1980 at a special ceremony in the Calgary Inn.

The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, is an organization that has long dedicated itself to the promotion of understanding and cooperation among men of different cultures.

Asian studies at Windsor

Having earlier eliminated the Asian Studies Department, the Senate of the University of Windsor established an Asian Studies Program at its March 1980 meeting. The new Asian Studies Program will be administered through the Faculty of Arts and will be interdisciplinary and inter-faculty in nature.

The Asian Studies Program will offer the degrees of B.A., B.A. Honours, and B.A. Honours (combined Asian Studies and other approved discipline). Many of the previous courses will continue to be offered under the heading of Asian Studies, and plans are underway to crosslist selected Social Science and other courses.

The five former members of the Asian Studies Department are being redeployed to various departments in Social Sciences and Arts. They along with ten other Asianists from various departments will be voting members of the Program faculty which has elected a Coordinator and a Steering Committee - C.C. King, D. Wurfel, M.L. Marasinghe, and A Lall.

Fellowship awarded

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada has announced that Professor **Arunanda V. Subbarao** of the University of Ottawa, has been granted an award under the Council's Leave Fellowships program. Professor Subbarao's research is in the field of industrial relations and is to be carried out in Asia during the year 1980-81.

VEDANTA SOCIETY

The Vedanta Society of Toronto plans to conduct its Annual Retreat beginning Saturday, June 28 at OLD SMOKEY SKI CHALET, KIMBERLEY ONTARIO.

For further information call: 678-1526.

Canadian mother to be extradited

NEW DELHI (IBS) — A mother who allegedly kidnapped her minor son to Canada was ordered to be extradited to India. Metropolitan Magistrate Prem Kumar ordered that a letter be written to the External Affairs Ministry, asking that proceedings be instituted against the woman, Mrs. Neera Badhwar. The magistrate fixed September 8, for the woman's appearance before him.

Lt. Col. Deepak Badhwar filed a case alleging that his wife had come to Delhi from Calcutta on December 12, 1977 along with their 12 year old son to visit her relations. After that the woman and her son took off for Canada without his consent and without informing him.

Grants

GRANTS

NACOI Ottawa Chapter has received a grant of $2,500 from the City of Ottawa to organise a program which will bring together children of various ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds. Dr. Satya Bhatnagar coordinates the program.

Deshantari - Bengali Multicultural Association received $500.

WHOLESALE PRICES HIT A NEW PEAK

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) — The official wholesale price index for all commodities (base 1970-71) which hs been continuously rising from the beginning of the current financial year, touched a new peak at 235.3 (provisional) during the week ended May 3 against 233.9 (provisional) for the previous week.

At this level the index was higher by 19.1 per cent compared to the corresponding week last year, says an official release.

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Fare effective June 15, 1980. Subject to Government approval. Daily Fast Flights start June 1.

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Just the smell of smoke rising from the barbecue in the neighbourhood stimulates my appetite for the mouth watering grilled foods. In the next eight to ten weeks, Canadians will be indulging into one of their favorite outdoor sports - cooking over charcoal. Next to hamburger, steak is the hero of the outdoor cooking scene. But there are some who do not eat beef or want a change from steak. This summer, why not change from beef and try Indian-style chicken or lamb? You can compliment the barbecued meat with different spices, yogurt and lemon juice. Even though an outdoor meal makes it easy for the cook, a lack of planning can make the outing a disaster. Plan ahead and relax later. To begin with, you should marinate the meat 24 hours before cooking. The most important thing to remember is to light charcoal 45 minutes before you start to cook. Coals are ready when they're covered with a layer of gray ash. Starting too soon causes all kinds of problems. You will end up with food that is charred on the surface but not properly cooked inside. When the coals are ready, spread them evenly over the pan if you are cooking on the grill. If you are using a spit, move the coals to the back of the pan, and place a dishpan under the spit. The elegant roast for barbecuing is a marinated rolled leg of lamb. However less expensive meat such as chicken, when barbecued Indian style, is very tasty. Serve Indian style barbecued meat with rice, vegetable salad, and a fresh fruit platter or fruit sherbet for an easy summer entertaining.

LAMB BARBECUE

1 (six to seven pound) leg of lamb, boned
1 large onion, chopped
5 to 6 large cloves garlic
2 (1½ inch) pieces fresh gingerroot, cut into pieces
2 lemons
3 tbsp. curry powder
2 green hot chilies, optional
1 tbsp. paprika
1 tbsp. garam masala
2 tsp. salt
1 large bunch of coriander leaves (washed & tied)
½ cup melted clarified butter (ghee)

Bone the meat, leaving it in one piece. Carefully cut all of the fat and tissue from the lamb and use a sharp pointed knife to pierce the flesh at many spots on both sides. Make the marinade: In the blender, blend onion, garlic, ginger, chili with lemon juice until creamy. Pour the mixture into a glass dish large enough to hold the lamb. Add curry powder, paprika, garam masala and salt. Mix well. Add lamb in the marinade and rub the paste all over the meat. Cover and refrigerate for 24 to 30 hours, turning and basting few times. About 1 hour before cooking, remove meat from the refrigerator and scrape the marinade (reserve it) and roll the meat tightly like a jelly roll; and tie with a string. Put roast on spit being sure to center it well. Fasten it with holding forks. Insert meat thermometer so tip is in center of roast, not touching metal spit. Arrange hot coals at back of fire box, a drip pan in front under roast. Knock gray ash from coals. Attach spit, turn on motor, and cook until meat thermometer reads 170F. (80C) for well done. If you like medium rare it should read 160F (75C.) It will take about 2¾ to 3 hours. Meanwhile add melted butter to the marinade and dip the bunch of tied coriander leaves into the marinade and slosh it on the meat during last hour of cooking. This coriander leaves add enormously to the meat's flavor.

Note: Do not have fire too hot - the meat should cook rather slowly. To maintain heat while roast is cooking, it will be necessary to add fresh coals. Place these at sides of hot coals and as they acquire layer of ash, move into centre.

FRESH GARAM MASALA

2 small pieces cinnamon sticks
1 tsp. of each whole cloves, black pepper and cumin seeds
20 white small cardamoms.

Spread all spices except cardamom in a roasting pan and bake them in a very low oven (200F.) for 25 to 30 minutes or until they are lightly toasted - do not let them become very brown, cool them. Split the cardamoms, and add the seeds to the mixture. Grind the mixture in a small coffee grinder or blender. The leftover mixture may be kept for weeks if tightly sealed.

Delightful dance and drama

By V.R. Harwalker

Ottawa - May 10 - A capacity audience of over 600 was treated to a delightful evening of Indian classical dances and Tagore's dance drama 'Chandalika' tonight at Ridgemont High School here. The programme was organized by the Indo-Canadian Women's Circle. The proceeds were to go through Match International to a women's project in Madurai, India.

The programme was presented in two parts. The first part started punctually with a brief introduction to Bharata Natyam by students of Mrs. Vasanthi Srinivasan. The sequence of dances cleverly illustrated how the students progressed from elementary levels to advanced stages. The accompanying live music was superb and almost of professional calibre. The control over rhythm and facial expressions of most students were impressive. The hard work put in by these students was clearly evident and should be encouraged.

Kanina Bhatnagar

The second part of the program "Chandalika" portrayed by Vasanthi's students was the highlight of the evening. It started with a brief but adequate introduction to Tagore's genius and the background for his musical drama "Chandalika". It would have been more helpful to the audience of non-Indian origin to have a brief synopsis of the play included in the programme sheet.

The dance drama was choreographed under the able direction of Vasanthi Srinivasan, the cast portrayed by her students and the music was provided by very talented local members of the community with direction by Shikha DasGupta.

Vrinda Bhagwat and Kanina Bhatnagar in Chandalika

The powerful story and the forceful message against discrimination were effectively portrayed by the performers. Obviously everyone had worked hard. The mastery with which each role was portrayed belied the fact that only one performer (Chandalika) knew the Bengali language in which the drama was presented. There was perfect harmony between the music and the final expressions and rhythm by all the dancers. The expressions of different emotions, eg., pathos, hatred, gaiety, joy, peacefulness, etc. at various periods during the play were ably conveyed. Lack of knowledge of the language did not seem to prevent one from being touched by expressions of anguish, forgiveness, serenity, etc. The play most certainly made a positive impact on the audience who left the auditorium with a unanimous expression of a pleasant feeling of satisfaction and fulfilment.

The function was an unqualified success not only by virtue of the excellent performance by the artists by its impact upon the just pride in the cultural heritage of Indians and Canadians of Indian origin, particularly the younger members. The programme was truly representative of united India, for it blended the cultures of North and South and attracted audience from all regions. Needless to add that the programmes of this nature go a long way to improve the image of India and foster better relationships between Canadians of Indian and non-Indian origins.

The organizers and the artists alike can justly be proud of the results and deserve to be congratulated and supported. It was evident that considerable effort went into organization of the programme and it should serve as a model for cooperative endeavours in future such cultural activities.

Indians seek revenge

Toronto, May 21

Metro police were searching yesterday for five East Indian men after a woman carrying a baby and three young white men were beaten in Toronto's east.

One of the victims, 30 year old Blaise McPherson, who was knocked unconscious during the assault, was reported in satisfactory condition in hospital last night suffering from multiple head wounds, a stab wound to the chest and numerous bruises.

The three other victims, 22 year old Wanda Newell, who had been carrying the child at the time of the attack, Warren Steven, 25, and 22 year old Donald Freeston, were all treated and released.

Police said yesterday they were encountering nothing but silence in their search for the East Indian assailants, who apparently picked the wrong group when they set out Sunday night to settle a racial grudge.

The group of whites was attacked on the street near a Gerrard Street East movie theatre after they had visited friends living above a nearby store, police said. The five attackers were armed with hockey sticks and a baseball bat.

[Globe and Mail]

Hot-line for Indo-Canadians

Toronto, May 19

Leaders of Metro Toronto's East Indian community plan to set up a hot-line telephone service to deal with complaints of racial attacks or discrimination, and say they will send "physical assistance" to callers who seem to need it.

About 60 representatives of several East Indian groups agreed on Saturday to urge members to boycott the Ontario Human Rights Commission and the Metro police complaints bureau, which they say are a waste of time and money.

Instead, they agreed to set up telephone service to give moral support and counselling to callers complaining of physical or verbal assaults or discrimination related to housing or employment.

Samra Kuldip Singh, head of the committee organizing the service, said in an interview yesterday that within hours of the meeting he had received two calls at home from Pakistanis seeking help.

Once a fund-raising drive had been launched, the agency also will provide fiancial help to East Indians who face charges after racial clashes.

Muscle will also be forthcoming "We don't want to see incidents develop into violenc. But if somebody needs physical assistance, we will give it," Mr. Singh said.

The meet agreed that an East Indian should not provoke assaults but, if attacked, should fight back "if he feels he won't end up in the hospital."

"Racism affects us in two areas — on the street and in the workplace," Mr. Singh said, but the police fail to deal with racism on the street and the Ontario Human Rights Commission is ineffective in the workplace.

The meeting agreed that East Indians cannot "depend on the police too much ... because the police just try to ignore those things. East Indians take name-calling very, very seriously. But sometimes the police don't show up, or if they do and it's name calling, they say to forget about it or go to a justice of the peace."

The police complaints bureau is ineffective and insensitive in dealing with such complaints, Mr. Singh said. The meeting was nearly unanimous in recommending a boycott of the bureau.

It also urged that the Ontario Human Rights Commission be boycotted as "a waste of time and a waste of money. It's not because there's a lack of staff or money there. We feel the people are not competent enough to do the job, or maybe they don't have enough power." He said some speakers advocated abolition of the commission.

[The Globe and Mail]

Indian HC dies

Ottawa May 17

General T.N. Raina, the Indian High Commissioner to Canada and a former chief of army staff, died suddenly.

A GREAT LOSS

The Indian minister of external affairs, P.V. NARASIMHA Rao, said: "India has lost a gallant, wise and sage gentleman; a great soldier who became an eminent diplomat."

Raina was appointed high commissioner to Canada after retiring from the army.

During the Second World War, he saw active service in the Middle East, Burma and the Far East. From 1948 to 1962, he held several important commands, staff and instructional appointments in India and abroad.

Raina was appointed the general officer commanding-in-chief western command in Oct., 1973. He took over as chief of the army staff in June, 1975. After completing his three-year tenure in this appointment, he retired from army service in May, 1978.

The body has been flown to India.

ICTC

Indo Canadian Teen Club of Ottawa took up two projects to help raise funds for the Community Centre. The first one was looking after the drink stall at the ICA dinner and the second one was a snack stall at the Baisaki Mela which was organised by Dipti Gupta. In total $102.00 was raised and donated for the Centre.

The ICTC also helped at one of the booths for 'meter's for Millions'. They also held a dance on May 10 at the Community Centre which was attended by about 80 teens.

They wer

NACOI B.C. Chapter:

President - Dr. Mohinder Singh
Vice-President - Krishan Soni
Secretary - Bijon Kartha
Treasurer - Sarup Singh Padam
Asstt. Secretary - Mehnga Singh
Asstt. Treasurer - Jagdev Singh

Canadian Rajput Association. Va

President - Sohan S. Parmar
Secretary - Kulwant S. Parmar

Council of Indian Societies of Ed

Chairman - P.S. Delhon
Secretary - M. Changarathil
Treasurer - B. Joshi
Past-President - Robbinson Kollp

Race Relations Coordinating

The new Executive of the Rac
(R2C2) of Calgary for year 1980

Chairman - Ranga Sreenivasan
Vice-Chairman (Finance) - Ms H
Vice-Chairman (Education & Res
Vice-Chairman (Media & Publica
Vice-Chairman (Public Relations
Secretary - Ms. Shahnaz Virjee
Treasurer - Ms. Laxmi Patel
Representative on R2C2 - Ms. M

CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF

President - Pahitra De
Vice-President - Amar Datta
Secretary-Treasurer - Ajay Ray
Joint Secretary - Mohan Seal
Director, Publicity - Aurovindo
Directors, Public Relations -

The Lower Mainland Bengali C

President - Dr. S.N. Banerjee
Vice-President - D. Guha
Secretary - Dr. C. Banerjee
Treasurer - R.N. Maiti

Member in charge of Cultural ac
Sports activities - A. Bhattasali.

For further information, please

Montreal Chapter founded

The Local Chapter of NACO
February with G. Khetarpal as
year 1980-81 are:

Vice-Chairman - Vincent Plant
Secretary - Anupam Bagchi
Treasurer - Dr. C.I. Petros

The Gujarati Cultural Associatio

President - Bhagwan Shah
Vice-President - Chandrakant A
Secretary - Girish B. Patel
Treasurer - Dilip Radia
Other Executive Members - J

To join the Association and fo
Girish B. Patel at 225-8870 or

Pope prais

Nairobi, May 29 (UNI) — Po
John Paul II held a spe
audience with leaders of
Hindu community in Kenya
paid tributes to the "gr
spiritual and cultural tradition
Hinduism."

The Pope was garlanded
Hindu religious texts w

Simla rem

NEW DELHI (IBS) — O
places in the country, Si
recalls the late Yugoslav Pr
dent Josip Broz Tito most vivi
He had visited the city during
first visit to the country in 19

The head mate of the ska
rink there, Nan Singh has b
with the rink for about 50 ye
He was there, when Tito was
guest of honour at the Club. H
still there, remembering that
day when the late President g
iway the Tito Ice Hockey Tro
o the Club.

They were elected

NACOI B.C. Chapter:

President - **Dr. Mehbuber Singh**
Vice-President - **Krishan Soni**
Secretary - **Bijou Kartha**
Treasurer - **Sarup Singh Padam**
Asstt. Secretary - **Mehnga Singh Rasode**
Asstt. Treasurer - **Jagdev Singh Mann**

Canadian Rajput Association, Vancouver:

President - **Sohan S. Parmar**
Secretary - **Kulwant S. Parmar**

Council of Indian Societies of Edmonton for the year 1980-81

Chairman - **P.S. Delhon**
Secretary - **M. Changarath**
Treasurer - **B. Joshi**
Past-President - **Robinson Kollpillai**

Race Relations Coordinating Council (R2C2) of Calgary

The new Executive of the Race Relations Coordinating Council (R2C2) of Calgary for year 1980

Chairman - **Ranga Sreenivasan**
Vice-Chariman (Finance) - **Ms Hansa Patel**
Vice-Chairman (Education & Research) - **Akil Athar**
Vice-Chairman (Media & Publications) - **Magan Bhadresa**
Vice-Chairman (Public Relations) - **Dr. Ravi Sharma**
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Joint Secretary - **Mohan Seal**
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The Lower Mainland Bengali Cultural Society of B.C.

President - **Dr. S.N. Banerjee**
Vice-President - **D. Guha**
Secretary - **Dr. C. Banerjee**
Treasurer - **R.N. Maiti**

Member in charge of Cultural activities - **Mrs. T. Dalal,**
Sports activities - **A. Bhattasali.**

For further information, please call (604) 271-9283.

Montreal Chapter founded

The Local Chapter of NACOI at Montreal was established in February with **G. Khetarpal** as Chairman. Other Executives for the year 1980-81 are:

Vice-Chairman - **Vincent Planchara**
Secretary - **Anupam Bagchi**
Treasurer - **Dr. C.I. Petros**

The Gujarati Cultural Association of Ottawa

President - **Bhagwan Shah**
Vice-President - **Chandrakant Acharya**
Secretary - **Girish B. Patel**
Treasurer - **Dilip Radia**
Other Executive Members - **Jayvadan Bhatt**
Urmila Desai
Rasik Khakhria
Sushila Pujara
Subhash Shah

To join the Association and for further information, please contact Girish B. Patel at 225-8870 or Bhagwan Shah at 829-3130.

Pope praises Hinduism

Nairobi, May 29 (UNI) — Pope John Paul II held a special audience with leaders of the Hindu community in Kenya and paid tributes to the "great spiritual and cultural tradition of Hinduism."

The Pope was garlanded and Hindu religious texts were presented to him by the 40-strong delegation of the Hindu Council of Kenya.

The Pope said that he was meeting Hindu religious leaders for the first time, "your own roots are found in the venerable history of Asia for which I have much respect and esteem."

Simla remembers Tito

NEW DELHI (IBS) — Of all places in the country, Simla recalls the late Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito most vividly. He had visited the city during his first visit to the country in 1954.

The head mate of the skating rink there, Nan Singh has been with the rink for about 50 years. He was there, when Tito was the guest of honour at the Club. He is still there, remembering that one day when the late President gave away the Tito Ice Hockey Trophy to the Club.

It was a chilly December day when Tito visited Simla and stayed as the guest of honour at the winter carnival.

KAPIL DEV ENGAGED

NEW DELHI (IBS) — India's cricket all-rounder Kapil Dev was engaged to Romi Bhatia, daughter of a businessman from Bombay, at a simple ceremony. Both the cricketer and his fiance are 21 years old. The marriage would be taking place shortly.

Sikhs seek understanding

By Paul Rodway

Ottawa, May 20

The history of the Canadian response to Sikhs is a dismal picture of racism, practised not merely by individuals, but by institutions like the education system and the press, a national conference of Sikhs was told Saturday.

John Spellman, head of the Institute of Asian Cultures in Windsor, said the Canadian education system at all levels paints a "false, exaggerated picture" of India as a "wretched, poor society," beset with monsoons and over-population.

AWARENESS 'ABYSMAL'

But other institutions in Canada aren't much better at getting beyond the stereotypes. The media's awareness of Sikhs is "abysmal." Spellman told the audience of more than 300 Sikhs, delegates from all regions of the country.

Spellman was keynote speaker at the conference held (May 16-18) at Carleton University. Following a similar conference held in Toronto last year, this meeting set up the first national federation of the more than 40 Sikh societies across the country.

This lack of knowledge and the fact that the estimated 100,000 Sikhs in Canada are the most visible minority in the country, with their turbans and beards, makes them the least understood and most hated group of Canadians, Spellman said.

'NOT OTHER WAY AROUND'

Spellman said Canada's multiculturalism policy means there's no question of Sikhs striving to become Canadians. "They don't have to do anything. They are already Canadians. Canada has to adapt and adjust to the Sikhs and not the other way around."

Multiculturalism implies respect and understanding of other cultures, not merely tolerance and acceptance, Spellman said. "Multiculturalism hardly exists in any meaningful way for Sikhs in Canada now."

But despite the gloomy picture, Spellman expressed the hope that the ideal of multiculturalism could become a reality.

Education must proceed on both sides, he said. "If we are to educate the people of Canada about the values and beliefs of the Sikhs, you must educate your people. Sikhs must understand their own culture."

More research needs to be done on the Sikhs' origins in the Punjab, of their history in Canada and the effect of the dominant society on their values, he said. And it's crucially important that Canadians become aware of the valuable contribution the Sikh religion and Punjabi culture have made to Canada, he said.

Other sessions in the conference dealt with the 76 year long history of the Sikhs in Canada, preservation of Sikh heritage and education of Sikh youth.

After dealing with the evolution of Sikhs in Canada, Gurbachan Singh Paul said Sikhs had several problems to discuss and resolve. "We have to decide whether we are Sikhs from India or Canadian Sikhs. We have to decide the place of the clean-shaven Sikh amongst us.

"We have to find solutions to these major issues, if we want to unify the community. We have to find the time to make liaisons with the larger Indian community in Canada."

Tirath Pal Singh Sandhu of Ottawa said more Sikh males are returning to the traditional beard and turban. "I'm going back. It's a way of keeping my identity," he said.

Sikhism, a religion combining Islamic and Hindu beliefs, was founded in the late 15th century by Nanak, its first guru, and flourished in the East Punjab.

(OTTAWA JOURNAL)

Indian elected president

Dr. R. Singhal, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, University of Ottawa, was elected President of the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) at its meeting in the University of Alberta, Edmonton, for a two-year term.

He has been a Fellow of the College and has served as its Vice-President for two years. The CCNP consists of Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Clinicians and Medical Researchers engaged in investigating mental disturbances and drugs which alter brain function and behaviour. The aim of the College is to provide a forum for clinical and basic science researchers, to exchange experiences in the practice of neuropsychopharmacology and to promote the development of this science, nationally and internationally.

Dr. Singhal has worked actively in this field dealing with drugs in psychiatry and substances with drug abuse potential. Out of a total of 300 research publications to his credit, many of them concern these powerful mind altering drugs, including a book which is being published in Great Britain.

Indo-Canadian Women's Circle

Indo Canadian Women's Circle, Ottawa, will be holding a talk on Sunday, June 8th at 2:30 p.m., at the Community Centre, 1346 Bank St. (at Riverside Dr.). Dr. Cherry of Carleton University will be speaking on "Raising Children in a Multicultural Society". All (men and women) are invited to attend.

British woman's fast

NEW DELHI (IBS) — Jenny Davidson became the second foreign woman to go hungry in protest at the continued holding of nine dacoits in the Gwalior central jail where they were lodged after they had surrendered in 1972, when the late Jaya Prakash Narayan had begun a movement getting dacoits to lay down their arms.

The first woman was American gandhian Sarah Bond. She went on a fast for one day outside the jail, but had to leave for the US the following day, on schedule.

A tent has been pitched outside the jail by the Gandhi Seva Ashram which is struggling on behalf of the nine dacoits who are themselves on a fast unto death.

80,000 SAPLINGS FOR BAHRAIN

NEW DELHI (IBS) — A ship docked at Cochin has a cargo of 80,000 saplings for the tiny Arabian Gulf island of Bahrain. The saplings are being imported by the Gulf country to try transforming its study land into lush tropical-type greenery.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Parents invite matrimonial correspondence from professionally qualified Jat Sikh boy, for their daughter 22, beautiful, cultured, very talented with charming personality, professionally qualified in computer field. Canadian citizen, from respectable family well settled in Canada. Please write with full details and recent returnable photograph to Box 967 Lambeth, Ontario NOL1SO Canada.

Suitable match preferably in Canada for an innocently divorced Rajput girl, 25, sweet, homely, attractive, M.A. Economics working in States. Caste no bar. Write M-1598, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited for a Syrian Catholic boy from Kerala, 29, soon to be Canadian citizen, university graduate, employed (in office) in Ontario, from Syrian Catholic girls below 26 years. Brother well-settled in Canada. Please send details with recent photograph to M-1705, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable immigrant or citizen Jat Sikh, match for a girl, 21, 5'-7", B.Sc medical, fair, beautiful, belongs to a well to do respectable family. Father First Class Officer with (PB) Government. Brother well settled in Canada. Professionals need apply with returnable photograph - % P.O. Box 653, Woodstock, Ontario.

Proposals invited from highly qualified and well settled Protestant Christian youth of Kerala origin for a good looking smart and efficient Syrian Christian girl (24 years) of a decent family. (M.A.(Hons.) from Delhi University with Diploma in Business Management from Delhi. Reply M-1708, The Canadian India Times.

Match for young lawyer, 25, 5'-8", belongs to Mukhi family in Chandigarh, India. Experienced in W. Germany, presently visiting relatives in Canada. Early marriage preferred. Please phone Mr. Kumar in Ottawa 1-613-828-4148.

Professional well settled from North India invites correspondence from sincere and educated ladies below 32. M-1709, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable para-medical girl preferably Pharmacist in USA/Canada for Brahman bachelor, 28, of Indian origin now Canadian citizen and Canadian/University graduate. Working for Government, good income. Parents/relations well settled in Canada. Please correspond M-1710, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for qualified Arora girl, 31, immigrant, working with Federal Government in Toronto, height 5'-6". Caste no Bar. M-1711, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial Correspondence invited for tall handsome Hindu boy, 27, final year computer technology. Student. Caste no bar. M-1712, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for Brahmin boy, 26, height 5'-10", studying B.Com. final in India, New Delhi. Family well settled in "Delhi LONDON U.K.", "TORONTO CANADA". M-1713, The Canadian India Times.

Smart, professional match, in late twenties, for convent educated, pretty, sophisticated and smart Delhi girl having masters in Economics and Political Science. Contact brother at (416) 495-5481.

Correspondence invited from U.S. or Canadian immigrant or citizen female for Hindu boy, 25, 5'-10". Presently employed in India with Computer Maintenance Corporation (I.B.M) as engineer. Parents well settled in Canada. No bars. Early marriage. Interested parties please contact M-1714, The Canadian India Times

A 5'-2" slim, Gujarati girl, 26, B.A. pass is seeking suitable Canadian or U.S. immigrant match. Caste no bar. Please Call: 416-252-2484.

Indus Valley script resembles Tamil

NEW DELHI (IBS) — Soviet experts claim that the Indus Valley script Dravidian language akin to Tamil, Malayalam or Kannada. Describing it as a fundamental discovery the experts say that the script of the civilization which existed around 2,500 BC is completely indigenous and original and it was not brought from outside.

Experts say that the script has no connection with the Sumerian civilization of West Asia or with the Egyptian Hidroglyphics. The script, however, has been found on 800 seals in West Asia a good evidence that a flourishing trade had existed between them and India.

The work of deciphering the script has been disclosed in a recent report in Izvestia and quoted by a British newspaper.

Child adoption

Bombay, May 28 (UNI) - The legislative sub-committee of the "Bal Varsha Pratisthan" - Year of the Child Foundation - has recommended a complete overhaul in the policy regarding children, including a law to allow direct adoptions by all communities and a comprehensive children's act.

The 13-member committee, headed by Mrs. Justice Sujata Manohar, notes that under the existing Hindu adoptions act only Hindus are allowed to adopt a child with the permission of the court. There is also a legal restriction on the number and sex of children who can be adopted.

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KISSA BEARD KA

Bombay (UNI) — The Janata (S) leader Raj Narain, has once again vowed not to shave his beard "till Mrs. Indira Gandhi is removed form power."

Raj Narain had earlier grown a beard and vowed not to shave it off till the then Prime Minister Morarji Desai was removed from power.

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TORONTO STAR & THE TRAVEL WEEKLY - BOTH HAVE WARNED THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE STOLEN TICKETS AT A CHEAP PRICE FLOATING IN THE MARKET. LOTS OF PASSENGERS HAVE GOT IN TO TROUBLE BUYING THESE CHEAP TICKETS AND HAVE MADE DOUBLE PAYMENTS AT THE AIR PORTS AND OTHER HARDSHIPS. IN YOUR OWN INTEREST, DEAL WITH ONLY VERY RELIABLE AGENTS WHOM YOU KNOW LONG ENOUGH!

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